

THE LIL AMANDA SHOW

By Amanda Card

SLC New Works Edit

2/9/2020

CAST OF CHARACTERS

LIL AMANDA: a girl (played by an adult actress)

ACTOR 1

- MR. SPILLMAN: LIL AMANDA's fourth grade teacher
- ALOHA HAMSTER: the leader of LIL AMANDA's band (a puppet)

ACTOR 2

- MICHAEL BOLTON: Michael Bolton

SCENE 1

LIL AMANDA's bedroom. 1994.

There is a bed and a bookshelf with a boombox on top. A beanbag. Maybe inflatable furniture. Tapes and toys. Hats. Costumes.

Next to the boombox sits a stuffed animal hamster who is wearing a Hawaiian shirt, sunglasses, and a lei. This is ALOHA HAMSTER.

There is a poster of MICHAEL BOLTON on the wall.

Lights up on LIL AMANDA.

LIL AMANDA

WELCOME TO THE LIL AMANDA SHOW!

(She puts a tape in the boombox. It is a late night theme song that she has recorded - something like The David Letterman Show theme song)

(She picks up ALOHA HAMSTER, and speaks the following in an ALOHA HAMSTER voice)

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN. BOYS AND GIRLS. CHICKIES AND COCKS
It's time once again for your favorite host! That adorable,
unbeatable, glamorous, sexy, kissable, hot hot hottie with a
body, the dancing skills of a mermaid, the voice of a mermaid,
and the looks of Jessica Rabbit Iiiiiit's LIIIIIIIIIIITTTLE
aaaaaaaMAAAAAAAAAAANDAAAAAAAAA

(LIL AMANDA has a toy with buttons that play various sounds, such as applause, laughter, "oooohs," and drumrolls. she pushes the applause button. She exits and enters again.)

HELLO! HELLO! HELLO!!!! OH MY GOODNESS! OH WOW!

(She pushes the applause button again)

Oh, c'mon guys! Sit down! Sit Down! Our show is only three hours long! I've gotta get to the jokes!

(She sets ALOHA HAMSTER on top of the boombox. He is the Paul Shaffer to her David Letterman.)

Hey there, Aloha Hamster! How's the wife and kids?

(LIL AMANDA does ALOHA HAMSTER's voice)

Oh, you know, same ole same ole! "Do the dishes! Buy me a bike! Turn off that television and listen to me!"

(In her own voice)

Hope your wife and kids are in bed when this airs or you're gonna be in the doghouse, Aloha Hamster!

(Hamster voice)

Dog house? More like the Hamster House!

(She doesn't like that joke. She tries again)

Dog house? More like the Hamster Ball!

(that was better. She pushes the laugh button on her toy.

In her own voice)

You are on FIRE tonight, Aloha Hamster!

(Hamster voice)

On fire!? OH GOD! PUT ME OUT! I'm covered in fur!

(toy sound: laughter. In her own voice)

Well! We've got some great guests here with us tonight! MICHAEL BOLTON IS HERE!

(toy sound: "OOOOOH")

I know, I know! Calm down, ladies!

(Hamster)

Is it getting hot in here or is it just me?

(Amanda)

Well, Aloha Hamster, you ARE covered in fur

(Hamster)

OOOOH! YOU ARE BAD!

(Amanda)

Then we'll be interviewing the beautiful model slash actress AMANDA about her new movie: Boot Corral girl!

(Hamster)

I smell an Oscar!

(Amanda)

What does it smell like?

(Hamster)

Metal

(a knock from the other side of the wall "shave and a haircut". LIL AMANDA runs over and knocks, finishing the rhythm with "two bits")

Ladies and gentlemen, I can't believe it! Looks like my brother Daniel is using the bathroom!

(A knock from the other side of the wall - "S.O.S.")

Oh man! That's the signal!

(She runs to her door and opens it, yells)

MOM DANIEL NEEDS SOME TOILET PAPER TAKE HIM SOME TOILET PAPER
RIGHT NOW

(LIL AMANDA runs back to the wall . She knocks on the wall in a very complicated pattern underneath the thing that she is about to say)

Daniel. Everything is okay. I just yelled at mom to bring you the toilet paper that she just got at the store and she will bring it to you and then you will be able to poop joyfully and peacefully.

(Three knocks from the other side of the wall.)

I

(AMANDA knocks)

love

(knock)

you

(knock)

too

(knock)

(Back to the show)

Well, I guess it's about time to bring out our first special guest - it's MICHAEL BOLTON

(LIL AMANDA crosses over to her boombox. Puts in a new tape. It plays Michael Bolton's "Can I Touch You there?"

(Wow. Sexy.)

(LIL AMANDA dances from the boombox to the Michael Bolton poster)

Oh. Hello, Michael

(in a MICHAEL BOLTON voice)

Hi, Amanda. It's been a long time

(LIL AMANDA)

It certainly has

(MICHAEL BOLTON)

Will you... reconsider my proposal

(LIL AMANDA voice. She dramatically crosses to the boombox and turns off the music.)

Oh, Michael, I'm only a girl! I've got so much life to live - so much to do! I couldn't possibly marry you and run away with you to Australia!

(MICHAEL BOLTON)

But-

(She crosses back to the poster. Puts her hand over Michael's lips. LIL AMANDA's voice)

SHHH! Michael. You have to stop this. It's embarrassing for you.

(a sexy beat)

COMMERCIAL!

(she crosses back to the boombox. Puts in a new tape. It plays "Misirlou" by Dick Dale & His Del-Tones. She grabs two toy nunchucks and flips them around.)

In a wooooorld, where everything is gross and sad and weird, ONE GIRL - one BEAUTIFUL, SEXY GIRL - is about to turn it all around

(She flips her hair)

Who me? Hahahaha.

(nunchucks)

It's AMANDA! Boot saleslady by day, Secret Agent by night.

(more nunchucks)

Don't worry, Mr. President. I've got this. kicks! Kicks! and more kicks! Now that's what I call "gettin the boot!"

In theaters summer '95

(she turns off the music)

BADADA BADADA WELCOME BACK TO THE LIL AMANDA SHOW!

It's time for our next special guest, all the way from Hollywood - IT'S AMANDA

(She puts her sound machine next to the boombox and hits the applause button. exits. enters, waves.

Oh my goodness, Hi! Hi! Hello everyone! Oh, wow! This is too much!

(the applause sound stops. She runs over and pushes the button again)

No, this is too much! Sit down! Wow!

(She sits on the beanbag - an interview chair. When she is "Guest Amanda" she wears a hat. When she is "Host Amanda" she takes the hat off. Maybe "Guest Amanda" has a slight british accent.

INTERVIEWER AMANDA

Oh. my gosh. Thank you SO MUCH for being here today.

GUEST AMANDA

Oh, my pleasure! My pleasure! You know, I watch this show everyday!

INTERVIEWER AMANDA

Wow you have to be kidding.

GUEST AMANDA

No it's true it's true!

INTERVIEWER AMANDA

So Amanda, everyone wants to know...how do you act so good?

GUEST AMANDA

(she considers this a moment)

Hmm... Well, you know, everyone's process is different, but for me it's really simple. My brain is magic.

INTERVIEWER AMANDA

That's amazing. Your hair is perfect. Will you sing us a song?

GUEST AMANDA

Oh no! No! I can't!

INTERVIEWER AMANDA

Come on! Sing us a song!

GUEST AMANDA

Oh! Okay!

(LIL AMANDA grabs a toy guitar. Pretends to tune it. she makes up a song as she goes, but sings it with a lot of feeling)

OOOOOOH, I'm just a girl

Makin her way in the world
 And I don't need a man
 Yes I'm just a girl
 With a perfect body
 and I work at a boot corrall
 and I definitely don't need a man
 They chase after me on the street.
 They ask me to get something to eat.
 They try to buy boots from me.
 But. I don't need a man.
 Cuz I can do all that I can.
 On my own on my own yes on my own
 I'm a lady on my own at the boot corrall
 and I'm so so sexy
 and I'm on my owwwwwwwwww-

(Mom from offstage yells: amanda?)

ooooooooowwwwwwww-

(Mom from offstage yells: Amanda?!)

ooooooooowwwwwwwwN

(Mom from offstage yells: AMANDA!)

MR. SPILLMAN

Amanda!

(LIGHT SHIFT. Suddenly, AMANDA is in her classroom at school the next day. MR. SPILLMAN enters.)

Now, remember what we talked about, okay hun? Stay within your allotted time. No more than 5 minutes. Okay let's give it up for Amanda!

(He sits in the audience)

LIL AMANDA

Hello. I'm Amanda Card. This is my show and tell presentation. Hit it, Mr. Spillman!

(Space music plays. She looks at the audience)

You're gonna love it.

(She turns around to get in character. She turns back around, ready. Does a fake, mimey walk)

Humans. They're everywhere, right? All the time! Some are moms. Some are dads. The rest are babies. Some look healthy on the

outside but guess what? they have stuff growing inside of them that is called CAAAAAAAAAANCEEEEEEEER.

People are full of cells. Sometimes your cells are smart and sometimes your cells are DUMB and they try to KILL YOU.

(She spins around. She is the dumb cell now)

I'm a DUMB CELL. I'm living inside of you and I want you to die! AHAHAHAHA. HEY because I'm so DUMB DUH I'm going to reproduce with my other dumb cousin cells and create more of me! and I'm gonna do it so fast that you can't stop me! AHAHAHAHA MY CANCER BABIES ARE EVERYWHERE

(She spins around. She is Marie Curie now.)

BONJOUR, my name is Marie Curie. I live in France or somewhere like that. I did a lot of stuff but the main thing I did is that I invented RADIATION.

I didn't know how dangerous radiation was because no one had ever played with the crap before so sometimes I handled it like with my bare hands and probably put it in sandwiches and stuff and it basically turned me into a BRIGHT GREEN RADIATION MONSTER!

I see you, dumb cancer cells! Take this! PEW! PEW! PEW!

(she spins around and becomes the dumb cell)

AHAHAHA! You thought you had seen the last of us didn't you, Marie Curie? Well you thought WRONG, you french monster! AHAHAHAHA!

(dumb cell kills Marie Curie)

BLAST! You've bested me, cancer. Tell all the people that I say thanks for that Nobel Prize that they're gonna give me when I'm dead.

(MARIE CURIE dies. For a long time.)

(LIL AMANDA stands up and bows, does something to indicate that MR. SPILLMAN should cut the music. MR. SPILLMAN comes out.)

Thank you, thank you everyone. Real quick though, we just found out that my brother Daniel has cancer so I'm gonna stand here and watch you guys and you guys are gonna pray for him real

quick but you have to really believe that it will work or it won't work so okay do it right now go.

(She waits for them to do it. They seem like they're done.)

Amen. You all better have really meant that because it doesn't work if you don't. I see you Mr. Spillman I'm wrapping it up. Alright! Thanks, Marie Curie! Thanks, Jesus! Let's kick cancer's butt!

MR. SPILLMAN

Okay! Thank you, Amanda! That was... within your allotted time frame. Great.

(AMANDA bows again and exits)

Alright everybody! LUNCH TIME! Now I've got something special that I've prepared to help us bless our food today.

(MR. SPILLMAN goes to his keyboard and plays a beat. He "raps.")

Hey Jesus Christ,
 We think you're pretty alright
 That's why we thank you for our cheese and rice
 You keep our peas green and our beans baked.
 We thank you lord for that Salisbury steak.
 Now join your hands and take a seat
 And thank the man upstairs for the spinach in your teeth.
 Don't fool around, don't scream or cuss
 Our great and holy father has his eyes on us.
 Please go line up and wash those hands.
 Cause we don't want your germ-y's in the promised land.
 Before you chew, or slurp your soup today
 Y'all gotta be reminded what the scripture say,
 Don't cheat your friends, don't lie or steal,
 And Justin just remember eat your own dang meal.
 My verse is done, my time is up.
 Just like Jesus when he passed around the holy cup.
 When you finish your food, don't run out to play.
 Be sure to throw your napkins and your juice boxes away.
 Thank You!

(He turns off the music)

Now that's what I call: HIS hop. LINE UP!

(LIGHT SHIFT. As Mr. Spillman exits, LIL AMANDA enters. She is in her bedroom now.)

(After the funeral. She wears a black dress.)

(She's holding a box that says "For Amanda". She doesn't know what to do with it. She puts it on her dresser.)

(She looks at the wall. Considers knocking on it. She doesn't.)

(She sits on the bed. She sits very still for a very long time.)

(She squeezes her eyes. She pokes them. She tries to make some tears come out. She can't.)

LIL AMANDA

CRY!!!

(She can't. She lays down.)

(Suddenly, the Lil Amanda Show theme song music comes on but it is more sophisticated. It doesn't come from a boombox this time.)

(ALOHA HAMSTER, on top of her boombox, starts to move! And speak!)

ALOHA HAMSTER

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN! BOYS AND GIRLS! CHICKIES AND COCKS! It's time once again for your favorite host. That adorable, unbeatable, glamorous, sexy, kissable, hot hot hottie with a body, the dancing skills of a mermaid, the voice of a mermaid, and the looks of Jessica Rabbit Iiiiiit's LIIIIIIIIIIITTTLE
aaaaaaaMAAAAAAAAAAANDAAAAAAAAA

(LIL AMANDA realizes what is happening. She sees ALOHA HAMSTER. She screams. ALOHA HAMSTER screams. She screams. ALOHA HAMSTER screams. They both scream.)

What's going on, Lil? Hamster got your tongue? Are you a mime now or something? I can't do this all by myself!

(beat)

Well, I've got a prescription for your mime disease. Let's make some noise for our special guest: MICHAEL BOLTON BOOOLTOOOON!

(Spotlight on the poster of Michael Bolton on the wall.

"Can I Touch You There?" starts to play. Wow. Sexy. In a perfect world there would be fog. Out steps MICHAEL BOLTON in all of his blonde, blazered glory. He strikes a pose. ALOHA HAMSTER pulls out a handheld fan. It makes MICHAEL BOLTON'S hair blow.)

MICHAEL BOLTON

Hi, Amanda. It's been a long time

ALOHA HAMSTER

It certainly has

MICHAEL BOLTON

Will you... reconsider my proposal

LIL AMANDA

I...Uh...

(MICHAEL opens his mouth wide and michael bolton's real singing voice falls out of it.)

MICHAEL BOLTON

WHEN A MAAAN LOVES A WOMAN

(LIL AMANDA is freaked the hell out. She doesn't know what to do. She pinches. She squints. She closes her eyes and opens them again. She jumps in her bed and covers herself up with blankets.)

ALOHA HAMSTER

Huh. I was sure that would work.

MICHAEL BOLTON

Weird.

ALOHA HAMSTER

WAIT! Wait, wait wait wait. I know exactly what to do.

(ALOHA HAMSTER whispers in MICHAEL BOLTON's ear. MICHAEL BOLTON takes center stage and gets ready. ALOHA HAMSTER

claps his hands twice. "Time of My Life" from Dirty Dancing starts to play. MICHAEL BOLTON looks at LIL AMANDA and does that finger "come here" thing that Patrick Swayze does in the movie. Reference photo:



LIL AMANDA doesn't come there. He does the finger thing again. She still doesn't come there.)

(ALOHA HAMSTER and MICHAEL BOLTON join forces to recreate that iconic arm moment from Dirty Dancing. Reference photo:



They look at her. It isn't working.)

ALOHA HAMSTER

Hmm. Oh!

(ALOHA HAMSTER claps his hands twice. "Maniac" from the movie Flashdance plays. ALOHA HAMSTER and MICHAEL BOLTON do a little of the Maniac dance. They stretch. They lunge. There is lots of hip action. They try to get AMANDA to join them. She doesn't.)

(ALOHA HAMSTER claps his hands twice. "Let's Hear It For The Boy" from Footloose starts to play. They do the dance that Ren and Willard do in the movie. Reference photo:



They try to get AMANDA to join them. She doesn't.)

(ALOHA HAMSTER claps his hands twice and stops the music. He's stumped.)

(MICHAEL has an idea. Claps his hands twice. Enya's "Orinoco Flow" starts to play. ALOHA HAMSTER isn't super into it but MICHAEL is pumped. They grab ribbon dancers. They do what could best be described as an interpretive dance.)

ALOHA HAMSTER

Wow! This is so much Fun!

MICHAEL BOLTON

Yeah!

ALOHA HAMSTER

I wish Amanda, the best dancer in the world, would dance with us!

MICHAEL BOLTON

Yeah!

(She doesn't. ALOHA HAMSTER stops dancing. Thinks for a second.)

ALOHA HAMSTER

AH! Yes! I've got just the thing.

(ALOHA HAMSTER claps his hands twice. Kenny Loggins' "Footloose" starts to play. It's that part of the song where the music builds irresistibly. AMANDA sits straight up, still covered with the blanket. ALOHA HAMSTER and MICHAEL BOLTON pull the blanket off of her and dance.)

ALOHA HAMSTER

Come on, Lil!

MICHAEL BOLTON

You know you love it!

LIL AMANDA

UGH! It's my KRYPTONITE!

(She struggles. She struggles. And finally she can no longer resist. She jumps in.)

LIL AMANDA

LET'S DAAAAAAAAAANCE!

(LIL AMANDA does a dance that is a combination of every iconic dance we have just witnessed - Flashdance, Footloose, Enya with ribbon dancers. And then the last verse plays)

LIL AMANDA

(singing)

EVERYBODY CUT EVERYBODY CUT!

EVERYBODY CUT EVERYBODY CUT!

EVERYBODY CUT EVERYBODY CUT!

EVERYBODY CUT FOOTLOOSE!

(They end in a musical theatre pose. AMANDA collapses. She is out of breath. She is rolling on the floor. She is laughing.)

LIL AMANDA

Woah! Oh my gosh! Oh my gosh, that was so much fun!

ALOHA HAMSTER

We know what you need, girl!

LIL AMANDA

Wait wait wait wait wait, though... How did you guys get here?

ALOHA HAMSTER

What do you mean, how did we get here? We've always been here!

LIL AMANDA

I KNOW but not like this

ALOHA HAMSTER

Well, It's real simple

MICHAEL BOLTON

Your brain is magic.

ALOHA HAMSTER

Your brain is magic.

LIL AMANDA

My brain is magic?

ALOHA HAMSTER

Yeah! Your brain is magic!

LIL AMANDA

(beat)

I KNEW IT.

(she does a little victory lap, dances, punches the air.)

I KNEW IT. I knew it. I KNEW IT!!!!

ALOHA HAMSTER

Yay!

MICHAEL BOLTON

You RULE, Amanda!

(ALOHA HAMSTER starts to play an instrument. It is
beautiful. The lights shift. He starts to sing)

ALOHA HAMSTER

OOOOOOH

she's just a girl

Makin her way in the world

And she don't need a man

LIL AMANDA

Yes I'm just a girl

With a perfect body

And I work at a boot corral

And I definitely don't need a man.

They chase after me on the street.

They ask me to get something to eat.

They try to buy boots from me.

But. I don't need no man.

Cuz I can do all that I can.

On my own on my own yes on my own

I'm a lady on my own at the boot corral

and I'm so so sexy
and I'm on my ownnnnnn.

(applause. Hoots. Hollers. LIL AMANDA bows. Waves. It is everything.)

MICHAEL BOLTON

Do you want me to sing something?

LIL AMANDA

That's okay.

WELCOME TO THE LIL AMANDA SHOOOOOOOW

(ALOHA HAMSTER and LIL AMANDA sing the theme music. They do a little dance. She goes to set up her talk show desk and moves the box - THE box - in the process)

MICHAEL BOLTON

What's that?

LIL AMANDA

(the singing and dancing stops. ALOHA HAMSTER is not cool with this. MICHAEL is ruining everything)

That's my brother's stuff

(ALOHA HAMSTER starts singing and dancing again. AMANDA joins)

MICHAEL BOLTON

Why do you have your brother's stuff?

LIL AMANDA

(everything stops)

When he found out that he didn't have much time left he put this stuff in a box for me.

MICHAEL BOLTON

Oh my goodness

ALOHA HAMSTER

(he's trying to stay positive)

Oh my goodness!

MICHAEL BOLTON

That's so bad

ALOHA HAMSTER

Oh my goodness!

MICHAEL BOLTON

That's a lot of things to feel

LIL AMANDA

I guess. Right now I don't really feel anything.

MICHAEL BOLTON

What happens when you die?

ALOHA HAMSTER

Michael! Come on, man!

LIL AMANDA

No! It's okay.

(beat)

I don't really know.

MICHAEL BOLTON

Oh.

ALOHA HAMSTER

Let's dance!

LIL AMANDA

Before he died he told my mom to tell me that it's okay to ask questions. I don't know what that means. It feels like he's still around. Like if I just concentrated or something I could bring him back.

ALOHA HAMSTER

Oh my gosh. Oh my gosh. I have a great idea. Amanda. I think you've forgotten something. Something very important. The last time I checked, you were Lil Amanda! Lil Amanda the star. Lil Amanda the powerful. Lil Amanda - the girl with the MAGIC BRAIN!

(beat)

Remember when you brought me to school with you, even though your teacher said that you weren't allowed to? Sidenote, sidebar, time out, I just need to say, what is that guy's deal? Why does he hate fun? ANYWAY, TIME IN, You took me to school and you hid me in your fancy purse and your teacher-who-hates-fun talked about this dead dude in the Bible.

LIL AMANDA

Samson?

ALOHA HAMSTER

No

LIL AMANDA

John The Baptist?

ALOHA HAMSTER

No

LIL AMANDA

All of the first-born children in Egypt who didn't put lamb's blood above their door-frames?

ALOHA HAMSTER

No

LIL AMANDA

Lazarus?

ALOHA HAMSTER

Lazarus!

MICHAEL BOLTON

Lazarus?

ALOHA HAMSTER

Yeah! Lazarus! So Lazarus was this dead dude in the Bible, but Jesus brought him back to life! Because Jesus was magic!

MICHAEL BOLTON

Amanda is magic, too!

ALOHA HAMSTER

You should Lazarus your brother!

(woah. This is a big idea. We need a minute.)

LIL AMANDA

Gosh.

Oh. Gosh.

Oh! Gosh! Gosh.

Huh.

MICHAEL BOLTON

(he's concerned)

What do you think?

ALOHA HAMSTER

I think this is the best idea we've ever had!

LIL AMANDA

Gosh. Gosh.

MICHAEL BOLTON

What would your parents think?

ALOHA HAMSTER

Your parents would never be sad again!

LIL AMANDA

I don't know... I don't want my parents to be sad anymore but aren't there like some rules about this kind of stuff?

ALOHA HAMSTER

Jesus did it!

MICHAEL BOLTON

Yeah! What Would Jesus Do?

(they make a series of noises where LIL AMANDA is basically like "should i?" and they're like "I think so!")

LIL AMANDA

Hmm...

ALOHA HAMSTER & MICHAEL BOLTON

Hmmmmmm!

LIL AMANDA

Hmmm?

ALOHA HAMSTER & MICHAEL BOLTON

Hmmmmmmmm!?!?

LIL AMANDA

...hmmmmmmMMMMMMMMMMMMMOKAY LET'S DO IT!

ALOHA HAMSTER & MICHAEL BOLTON

YEAH!

MICHAEL BOLTON

What's the plan?

LIL AMANDA

Well, tomorrow I have to go back to school.

ALOHA HAMSTER & MICHAEL BOLTON

Mmm-hmm

LIL AMANDA

After school, I'll have a juice box and some peanut butter crackers

ALOHA HAMSTER & MICHAEL BOLTON

Mmm-hmm

LIL AMANDA

and then

ALOHA HAMSTER & MICHAEL BOLTON

Mmm-hmm?

LIL AMANDA

We'll bring Daniel back from the dead!

ALOHA HAMSTER

Just like Lazarus!

MICHAEL BOLTON

This is a great idea.

(They pile their hands together)

ALL

Goooooooo LAZARUS!

(Light shift. Something like "YOUNG HEARTS" by Commuter plays.)

(In a dreamy light, LIL AMANDA, ALOHA HAMSTER, and MICHAEL BOLTON move, perhaps in circles. Time is passing.)

(It is the anticipation of magic. Or maybe it's the moment before the underdog in the movie has to fight the bad guy. All of her training has led her to this moment.)

(As they move, HAMSTER and MICHAEL BOLTON pile AMANDA's arms with a Bible, an urn, sunglasses, and her brother's jacket.)

(THEN, light shift. Back to LIL AMANDA'S bedroom. After school the next day.)

ALOHA HAMSTER

HEY GIRL! WOAH! THERE SHE IS! THE VERY VERY BEST GIRL! How was your first day back at school?

LIL AMANDA

Great! I got there and everyone was like OH MY GOSH AMANDA IT'S SO GOOD TO SEE YOU YOU LOOK AMAZING and I was like WOW THANKS and they were like SING US A SONG and I was like OH WOW I CANT and they were like NO SING US A SONG and I was like OH OKAY so I sang a song and it was so good and then they cheered and they picked me up and carried me on their shoulders out the door and onto the football field and I SCORED A TOUCHDOWN AND WE WON THE GAME!

ALOHA HAMSTER

Wow!

MICHAEL BOLTON

Really?

LIL AMANDA

Yeah! So anyway-

(LIL AMANDA puts the urn on the ground)

ALOHA HAMSTER

That looks fancy

LIL AMANDA

This is Daniel

ALOHA HAMSTER

WHAT!?

LIL AMANDA

Yeah. This an urn and he's in here

MICHAEL BOLTON

He's IN THERE?

ALOHA HAMSTER

How did they fit him in there

LIL AMANDA

They cremated him.

MICHAEL BOLTON

They creamed him?

ALOHA HAMSTER

Like creamed corn?

LIL AMANDA

No! They CREMATED him!

MICHAEL BOLTON & ALOHA HAMSTER

OOOOOOOoooooooooh.

MICHAEL BOLTON

What does "cremated" mean?

LIL AMANDA

(She takes a second. She doesn't know. Should she lie?)

Ha! You don't know what "cremated" means? EVERYONE knows what "cremated" means!

(MICHAEL look at the urn cautiously. Respectfully:)

MICHAEL BOLTON

Can I see him?

(LIL AMANDA considers this, and then gives MICHAEL the urn. She trusts him. MICHAEL looks at the urn with reverence. He smiles.)

MICHAEL BOLTON

He's heavier than I expected.

(MICHAEL considers the urn for a moment. Then, gently, hands it back to AMANDA.)

Thank you.

LIL AMANDA

(AMANDA is moved. This was very generous.)

Thank you.

(moving on)

Okay, so here's how it's gonna work. I'm gonna put his jacket and his sunglasses on the urn and then I'm gonna say some Bible words and then he'll come back!

ALOHA HAMSTER

Totally!

MICHAEL BOLTON

I can't wait to meet him.

(LIL AMANDA puts the jacket and sunglasses on the urn. It's very "Weekend at Bernie's". She opens the Bible and flips to the right section.)

LIL AMANDA

Okay. Here we go. John 11:1-44

MICHAEL BOLTON

Wait.

LIL AMANDA

What?

MICHAEL BOLTON

Shouldn't we Lazarus him back into some pants?

LIL AMANDA

My mom gave the rest of his clothes away. I only have the jacket.

MICHAEL BOLTON

Maybe you can add a bit in there about bringing him back with pants on?

ALOHA HAMSTER

Heaven pants

MICHAEL BOLTON

Yeah! Heaven pants!

ALOHA HAMSTER

I bet they're gold! Why don't you just Lazarus him back into a whole heaven suit? Then he'll have a whole OUTFIT made out of heaven gold!

MICHAEL BOLTON

A gold heaven suit!

ALOHA HAMSTER & MICHAEL BOLTON

Gold heaven suit! Gold heaven suit!

Gold heaven suit! Gold heaven suit!

Gold heaven suit! Gold heaven suit!

Gold heaven suit! Gold heaven suit!
Gold heaven suit! Gold heaven suit!

LIL AMANDA

That's a great idea! Alright. John 11:1-44-

MICHAEL BOLTON

Wait.

LIL AMANDA

What?!

MICHAEL BOLTON

I'm worried that this will be messy

ALOHA HAMSTER

Messy?

MICHAEL BOLTON

Yeah! Messy! Once he starts to Lazarus there could be... I don't know... blood and guts and stuff.

ALOHA HAMSTER

Oh right. Because God'll have to put everything back together. And make fresh new organs. And new blood and brains.

MICHAEL BOLTON

So maybe bring him back in his heaven suit. Let THAT get messy. It's probably magic and water resistant. Then give him his jacket and sunglasses once he gets here and takes a shower

LIL AMANDA

You guys are geniuses

(LIL AMANDA gets a tarp while ALOHA HAMSTER puts the jacket on a coat rack)

MICHAEL BOLTON

How did you get a tarp?

LIL AMANDA

I just have one.

(LIL AMANDA lays the tarp on the ground. And then she puts the urn on the tarp. She clears her throat.)

Okay! Anything else before we start?

ALOHA HAMSTER

Nope

LIL AMANDA

Are you positive? Because I really want to get this done without any more interruptions

MICHAEL BOLTON

Okay I have one thing

LIL AMANDA

What is it, Michael Bolton?

MICHAEL BOLTON

Do you want me to sing something?

LIL AMANDA

That's okay.

MICHAEL BOLTON

Okay.

(beat)

Can we AT LEAST put on some Enya? That'll definitely help the magic.

LIL AMANDA

Okay.

(MICHAEL BOLTON claps his hands twice. "Only Time" by Enya starts to play)

LIL AMANDA

Alright. Is everyone ready? Okay. Oh my gosh. Oh my gosh, I'm so excited. He's gonna come back to life! He's gonna get brand new bones and skin and organs and they won't have all that crap that was in them before. And his hair will be thick and long. And he probably won't need glasses anymore cuz he'll have new eyes. And he'll look at me and he'll smile and he'll say "Amanda I missed you so much! I'm so happy to see you!" And then he'll go to prom and college and he'll become a doctor and get married and I'll be the maid of honor because his wife and I will be best friends and then he'll be in my wedding and we'll both have babies who will be best friends and as we get older we'll move into a retirement home together and play checkers. Do I look okay?

MICHAEL BOLTON

You look beautiful. Like Jessica Rabbit.

LIL AMANDA

(this has given her courage)

Okay. Let's do this. Lazarus

(LIL AMANDA opens the Bible and starts to read)

LIL AMANDA

John 11:1-44. "A man named Lazarus was sick. He lived in Bethany with his sisters, Mary and Martha. This is the Mary who later

poured the expensive perfume on the Lord's feet and wiped them with her hair. Her brother, Lazarus, was sick."

ALOHA HAMSTER

This is boring

MICHAEL BOLTON

Maybe if we danced it would help the magic?

ALOHA HAMSTER

Yeah!

(They do what could best be described as an interpretive dance while LIL AMANDA reads)

LIL AMANDA

"So the two sisters sent a message to Jesus telling him, 'Lord, your dear friend is very sick.' But when Jesus heard about it he said, 'Lazarus's sickness will not end in death. No, it happened for the glory of God so that the Son of God will receive glory from this. Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I will go and wake him up.'

When Mary arrived and saw Jesus, she fell at his feet and said, 'Lord, if only you had been here, my brother would not have died.'"

(LIL AMANDA stops. Wait, what? Let's take a beat.)

ALOHA HAMSTER

Skip to the good part

MICHAEL BOLTON

Yeah skip to the magic part

LIL AMANDA

"Jesus arrived at the tomb, a cave with a stone rolled across its entrance. 'Roll the stone aside,' Jesus told them.

But Martha, the dead man's sister, protested, 'Lord, he has been dead for four days. The smell will be terrible.'"

ALOHA HAMSTER

They should've creamed him

MICHAEL BOLTON

CREMATED

LIL AMANDA

SHHH! YOU GUYS ARE DISTRACTING ME!

(LIL AMANDA stomps twice. They stop. Enya stops.)

LIL AMANDA

"Jesus responded, 'Didn't I tell you that you would see God's glory if you believe?' So they rolled the stone aside. Then Jesus shouted, 'Lazarus, come out!' And the dead man came out, his hands and feet bound in graveclothes, his face wrapped in a headcloth. Jesus told them, 'Unwrap him and let him go!'"

(They all look at the urn. Nothing happens. beat.)

MICHAEL BOLTON

Is that it?

LIL AMANDA

(LIL AMANDA flips a few pages in the Bible)

Yes.

ALOHA HAMSTER

What are the magic words?

LIL AMANDA

Um... I think "Lazarus come out?" Lazarus! Come out! Daniel! Come out!

(Nothing happens. Beat.)

MICHAEL BOLTON

Maybe we could just wrap him in the tarp. The Bible said that Lazarus was wrapped in stuff. Maybe he just needs to be wrapped in stuff.

(LIL AMANDA wraps the tarp around the urn. They help her.)

LIL AMANDA

Lazarus, come out!

(Nothing happens)

Daniel, COME OUT!

(Nothing happens)

It's not working!

MICHAEL BOLTON

Maybe he's stuck in that urn and he can't get out

ALOHA HAMSTER

Yeah! You need to let him out!

LIL AMANDA

Oh. Uh. I don't want to do that.

ALOHA HAMSTER

But it might be the only way to bring him back!

LIL AMANDA

I don't think it's a good idea.

MICHAEL BOLTON

Why?

LIL AMANDA

I can't!

ALOHA HAMSTER

Why?

LIL AMANDA

I can't!

MICHAEL BOLTON & ALOHA HAMSTER

Why?

LIL AMANDA

Because I don't know what's in there!

(beat. This is hard to admit.)

I don't know what cremated means. No one will tell me. I'm afraid to ask.

(a long, horrible beat.)

ALOHA HAMSTER

Lil. You have to let him out.

LIL AMANDA

I don't want to.

MICHAEL BOLTON

If you want to bring him back then it doesn't matter what's in there. You have to see it.

LIL AMANDA

But it's gonna be scary.

ALOHA HAMSTER

You have to!

MICHAEL BOLTON

You have to.

(beat)

We'll be right here with you. The whole time.

(LIL AMANDA nods. They unfold the tarp. LIL AMANDA picks up the urn. She pours the ashes out. She looks at them. These bits and pieces used to be a person that she loved.)

(They all stare at it. It is weird. And fascinating. Scary.
And not scary.)

(she knows now. It's not going to work. weakly:)

LIL AMANDA

Daniel. Come out.

(Nothing happens. Of course it doesn't. They stare at the
ashes. She puts the urn down and sits.)

ALOHA HAMSTER

Why isn't it working?

MICHAEL BOLTON

I don't know. She did everything right.

LIL AMANDA

I did?

MICHAEL BOLTON

You ABSOLUTELY did.

(another long beat.)

ALOHA HAMSTER

Huh.

MICHAEL BOLTON

What?

ALOHA HAMSTER

I just... I think I might know why it isn't working.

(beat.)

I mean, there's no other explanation.

(beat. ALOHA HAMSTER looks at LIL AMANDA.)

You're not believing enough

LIL AMANDA

What?

ALOHA HAMSTER

You don't really believe that it will work. You have to really
believe that it will work for it to work.

LIL AMANDA

I believe that it will work. I believe it with my whole heart.

ALOHA HAMSTER

But if you believed with your whole heart it would've worked!

Daniel would be here! Right now! In a gold heaven suit! With new

blood and new brains and new eyes and hair! But he's not. He's just... rocks!

MICHAEL BOLTON

I mean, Aloha Hamster has a point. You brought us here. Your brain is magic.

ALOHA HAMSTER

Maybe your brain made all of this happen in the first place. Maybe your brain made the dumb cells. Maybe your brain made the dumb cells grow. Maybe this is your fault. Maybe ALL of this is your fault.

MICHAEL BOLTON

Did you visit him in the hospital everyday?

LIL AMANDA

Yeah! Well, I visited him a lot.

MICHAEL BOLTON

(MICHAEL is disappointed in her)

A lot isn't everyday.

ALOHA HAMSTER

Did you pray for him everyday? And when you prayed did you really believe it?

LIL AMANDA

I think I prayed for him everyday but I may have missed a night every once in awhile. Sometimes I fall asleep before I'm done.

MICHAEL BOLTON

Okay. I'm going to ask you a really hard question. But I need you to be honest with me.

(beat)

Did you ever wish for him to die?

ALOHA HAMSTER

What?! Of course she didn't!

MICHAEL BOLTON

Just hear me out. Did you ever wish for him to die? or *think* about him dying? At all? Even for a second?

LIL AMANDA

(LIL AMANDA thinks. She thinks really hard. She knows. Should she lie?)

One time I thought, just for a second, "What would happen if Daniel died?"

(this is a huge bomb)

MICHAEL BOLTON

Amanda.

(beat.)

I can't believe this.

LIL AMANDA

I didn't know that my brain was magic! If I had known that my brain was magic I never would have thought those things.

MICHAEL BOLTON

I can't believe this.

(MICHAEL has to walk away. She is a monster.)

LIL AMANDA

I didn't know!

ALOHA HAMSTER

You should've known.

MICHAEL BOLTON

You should've known.

LIL AMANDA

I should've known.

(There's nothing she can do to fix this. She gathers the ashes in her bare hands and tries to put them back into the urn. She does this for a while.)

(Then, MICHAEL BOLTON claps his hands twice. The talk show theme music starts to play)

ALOHA HAMSTER

Ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls, chickies and cocks, you all know what time it is! It's time to interview our special guest, all the way from Hollywood, it's LIL AMANDAAAAAAAAAAAAA

LIL AMANDA

I don't want to.

ALOHA HAMSTER

Of course you do! Come on!

MICHAEL BOLTON

Let's ask some questions.

(MICHAEL makes her sit in the beanbag. They surround her. Maybe they put the guest hat on her head.)

LIL AMANDA

No!

ALOHA HAMSTER

Everyone wants to know, why aren't you more sad?

MICHAEL BOLTON

Why aren't you more sad?

ALOHA HAMSTER

Why aren't you more emotional?

MICHAEL BOLTON

Why don't you feel anything?

ALOHA HAMSTER

Why didn't you pray more?

MICHAEL BOLTON

Prayer works when you really believe it.

ALOHA HAMSTER

Why don't you believe?

MICHAEL BOLTON

When will you get over this?

ALOHA HAMSTER

Why aren't you over this yet?

MICHAEL BOLTON

Why can't you be normal?

ALOHA HAMSTER

Why won't your parents talk to you?

MICHAEL BOLTON

Why won't your parents tell you anything?

LIL AMANDA

I don't know!

ALOHA HAMSTER

Can you be as good as Daniel?

LIL AMANDA

I don't know!

MICHAEL BOLTON

Can you be twice as good now that Daniel is dead?

LIL AMANDA

I don't know! I don't know the answers!

MICHAEL BOLTON

This is all your fault!

ALOHA HAMSTER

It's all your fault!

MICHAEL BOLTON

It's all your fault!

ALOHA HAMSTER

It's All your Fault!

MICHAEL BOLTON & ALOHA HAMSTER

It's all your fault! It's all your fault!

It's all your fault! It's all your fault!

(MICHAEL BOLTON & ALOHA HAMSTER continue to chant.)

LIL AMANDA

Stop

Stop!

(this is it. She breaks. Suddenly, she feels everything that she hasn't felt. Her voice explodes out of her.)

STOP!!!!

(MICHAEL & ALOHA disappear. The lights shift. We're back in reality now. LIL AMANDA goes to the shelf and grabs the box.)

(She throws it. Hard.)

(She breaks. Silence. She's a monster.)

I'm sorry.

(beat.)

I don't know how to fix it.

(LIGHTSHIFT.)

(LIL AMANDA doesn't move, but we're in the classroom now. Suddenly. Show and tell.)

Hello. I'm Amanda Card. This is my show and tell presentation. I don't really know what to do because I didn't know that this was happening but maybe I could just re-enact last night's episode of Seinfeld for you? It was a new one! It was really funny. Daniel would've liked it a lot.

Daniel's not going to see it.

My brother is dead.

(beat)

My brain is magic. I used to think that this meant that I had a lot of power - like I could control all of the things around me

if I thought a certain way or did a certain thing. But I think it's not that kind of magic.

Sometimes the magic it does is bad. But I think if I can learn how to control it, it can do good things too. Like if I smell that soap that smells like spicy water, my brain can take me back to when Daniel would hug me. And it's like he's hugging me right now.

(beat)

Daniel is dead.

(She feels this. She really feels it. We see her feel it.) I'm sad. And my insides hurt. And I will miss him forever. And I will love him forever. And I don't think I will ever get over it or move on or whatever it was that you said Mr. Spillman.

No! No, Mr. Spillman I'm not going to wrap it up because I need to say this stuff! And I don't care if it makes you uncomfortable or if it makes ME look WEIRD! Something bad happened. Something really really bad happened. And it doesn't make sense! And I HAVE QUESTIONS! I have a lot of questions!!! Like, can he see me right now? Is he gone forever? Will I see him again? Did it hurt? Does he miss me? When will I stop hurting? Will I ever stop hurting?

I don't know the answers to these questions. I don't think anyone does. But I think it's okay to ask. I think it's good to ask.

(Light shift. We're back in LIL AMANDA's room. She takes a beat.)

(She tries to clean up the mess she's made. She sees a tape that is unharmed. She picks it up and reads it.)

"Live through this"

(She puts the tape in the boombox and plays it. "Miss World," by Hole. She listens for a second. She sees the ashes, the urn, the mess. She cleans up the ashes, the urn,

and the tarp, and moves them out of the way. Daniel's not there. She goes to the wall. Will she knock on it? Should she?)

(She picks up Daniel's sunglasses. She puts them on. She smiles.)

(She sees Daniel's jacket. She walks over to the jacket. She takes it off the rack. She hugs it. She smells it.)

(She starts to dance with it. The music grows and starts to come out of the speakers in the house. LIL AMANDA raises her hands in the air and the lights change. A dance party. ALOHA HAMSTER and MICHAEL BOLTON reappear. They dance. They have confetti. They throw it in the air. It's fun. They hug. Then, they wave at her. They're around, but she doesn't need them right now. They disappear. The song ends. With a flourish:)

WELCOME! To the LIL AMANDA SHOOOOOOW!!!!

BLACKOUT. END OF PLAY.