



MIRROR / MIRROR

Learn to Love your Story

When Ana is pulled through her bedroom mirror she faces fantastical worlds filled with moments of reflection and discovery. She meets bizarre characters and defeats her biggest insecurities to start learning to love her story.



the amir frank papers



BUFFALO STATE
The State University of New York

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Mirror/Mirror is the latest original play created by SUNY Buffalo State/Anne Frank Project students. Following their trip to Rwanda in January 2015, 12 students processed their experience through the creation of a new play: inspired in Rwanda, developed at Buffalo State, delivered to local Buffalo schools (Fall 2015). Mirror/Mirror follows Anna, a teen girl who is filled with self-hate and personal judgment. She is pulled into a fantastic journey that reveals her inner secrets and leads her to learning to love her story. The performance is 40-minutes followed by a 40-minute workshop activating the lessons of the play.

ACT IPrologue

Play opens to Ensemble in a half-moon shape open to the audience, their backs turned to the audience. As REX speaks they introduce themselves through gestures.

REX

Ana Banana was in need of a trial

Ana Banana needed the help of my guile

All the Kings lions and all the Kings men

Are helping Ana put herself back together again

Now in this boisterous bellow, I shall say my Ello!

Here is the clue I live within all of you.

The Master of Ceremony is none-other than me.

And welcoming you this play fills me with glee.

As you can see I like to rhyme and that is no crime

For it will help me teach my lesson and no I ain't
messin'!

I have this hunch that you are thinking of lunch

But I promise you will have a Ball! Our play is for all

So please save me a chair I will be right there

Because Ladies and Gentlemen it time to start
stretching your heart!

*ENSEMBLE makes a wooshing noise and takes us to
ANA in her bedroom.*

Stasis: Bedroom

ANA is in her room doing crunches, jumping-jacks, jump-rope, and tracking calories in her weight-loss App. She is wearing a tank or sports bra, leggings, and chucks. We hear the App:

APP

If you continue eating this amount of calories each day you will lose 25 pounds in two weeks.

DISCLAIMER (FAST TALK)

This may unhealthy

Ana stops her activities and starts to put on her favorite sweater.

MOM (FROM DOWNSTAIRS)

Ana? Are you ready yet?! And wear something nice, not that stupid sweater you always wear. Put on that dress I bought you.

DAD

I don't give a shit what you wear. We are leaving in two minutes!

MOM

Don't listen to your father. LOOKS MATTER. It's your cousin's rehearsal dinner for Christ's sake, do you want your Aunt Sue to tell you that you look like a slob? You know how she gets.

Ana takes off the sweater and grabs a dress. She holds the dress in front of herself and walks to the mirror, angling herself this way and that to get a look she likes.

ANA

This is not going to look good.

She drops the dress to the floor and she starts examining her body in the mirror. REX reappears in front of the mirror. He is dressed in a tie, button up, nice trousers, and polished shoes. REX mimics her actions. She sucks in, pulls at areas she hates. She gets violent with her own skin.

ANA

Why can't I be like everyone else?

ANA repeats this three times. REX pulls her through the mirror.

REX

Why can't you find the beauty in yourself?

ANA

Huh? Where am I? Who are you?

REX

Don't you know? I'm the one who pulled you through!

ANA

What do you mean?

REX

Here's the scene

Your perception of yourself is not quite best

The body you're in, you've grown to detest

You obsess with a person you want to become

You starve and you sweat and won't stop till you're numb

This just will not do, you need to see clear

See yourself for yourself. This is why you are here.

This journey is one that could set you free

Now go take a look, what do you see?