# SPACE BETWEEN



Meet Avery: smart, misunderstood, bullied and raised by a single mother who just doesn't get it... you know, a typical teenager. When the time has come for Avery to discover her true self, she is launched into the outer space of her imagination where planets teach lessons, stars shine bright and comets send her on a hyper speed journey back to her same tedious high school life. Will Avery use her fantastic voyage to stand up for herself or will she take a back seat to her life? The performance will be followed by a kinesthetic workshop to support and process the lessons in the story.

THE SPACE BETWEEN is an original production by SUNY Buffalo State's Anne Frank Project in partnership with the Theater Department. This is AFP's fourth touring production to schools and organizations. The stories are about identity exploration, community building, and conflict resolution. AFP in the Schools programming is a service of Buffalo State.

Touring starts February 26, 2018 M-W-F, 9:15AM-10:30AM

**Book your reservation today!** 

Fill out the online form!

Call us: 716-878-5559

More info: www.annefrankproject.com



# ACT 1

## Scene 1

Down stage right, sleeping in their bed with earbuds full blast (they are not supposed to have) is AVERY. They fell asleep last night while studying for science. AVERY switched from listening to review questions to a guilty pleasure mom doesn't like: Music. They were only supposed to listen to one song but now they've fallen to sleep with music in their ears so loud that they can't hear moms call. A moment passes and their Mother, CAROL, yells offstage to wake AVERY for science test review questions for the test today.

### CAROL

Avery! It's time to wake up sweet heart! We have some study time for your science test this morning!

AVERY is still lost in the volume of their earbuds and cannot hear their mother calling. CAROL decides to tiptoe into the the room to wake AVERY herself, gently closing the door behind her. AVERY'S door is located upstage right close to AVERY'S bed. CAROL walks over to the bed, notices a faint sound coming from AVERYS head area, determines AVERY has earbuds in and rips them out waking AVERY up.

### CAROL

AVERY! That doesn't sound like science review! What exactly were you doing last night?

# AVERY

Mom! I um... uh, I was also reviewing for music class mom. (joking) You know that's a class we have a school too right? And we have auditio-

CAROL cuts AVERY off before they are able to finish their thought.

### CAROL

You don't want to be late today, sweet heart! C'mon let's walk and talk! (CAROL ushers AVERY to their desk) You know my motto, "Punctuality is beauty!"

# **PAUSE**

And you also know my other motto, "Art has NO start!" So maybe, why don't we focus on the things that can get us good paying careers in the future, huh? Food on the table, a roof over your head! Like science. AV I'm not going to be around to take care of you forever.

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# CAROL

You have to start thinking rational now. Get dressed and hit those books. Car in 25.

CAROL leaves the room and AVERY starts dressing. Once they are dressed they sit at their desk and begin studying.

### **AVERY**

"What is the 4th planet from Pluto?" Well that's obviously Mars... "Which planets icy rings help it stabilize?" (SACASTICALLY) Thats not Saturn... "Order off the planets by name including if they have a moon." Mercury, Venus, Earth, and Mars, Jupiter, Saturn they're not stars, Uranus, Neptune, Pluto's last now let's hear you say them fast!

AVERY begins tapping their feet, clapping their hands, dancing around the room getting lost in the sauce of the planets song they created. So loud and lost in fact that it attracts CAROLS attention. CAROL stampedes back into AVERYS room.

### CAROL

AVERY J BLAKE YOU STOP THIS NONSENSE! What are you in here doing!?

### **AVERY**

Mom! I- I swear to you I was studying science, Mr. Murphy, she gave extra credit if anyone could come up with a song to help our class remember our planets, and I did! I was reciting planets I swear!

### CAROL

Carol is unable to speak her disappointment sighs. Pack your bag, pack for school, finish dressing and meet me at the car Avery, I'll have your lunch there.

CAROL leaves the room again and AVERY stands watching. AVERY wipes their face from forehead to chin with their whole hand, sighs and proceeds to meet their mother. AVERY is determined to tell their mother what's been bothering them during the car ride.

TRANSITION TO CAR HUMMING MERCURY'S SONG

2 Scene 2

Carol and Avery are in the car, Carol is attentive to the road while Avery is attentive to their mother as if they have something to say and are thinking of a way to say it.

**AVERY** 

Mom, Did you like how clever my planets song was?

CAROL

Avery are you trying to ask me about the auditions for music class?

**AVERY** 

Well, gee mom, how'd you-

CAROL cuts AVERY off yet again

CAROL

As if you haven't been hinting at it all morning!

Thinks a moment.

how about Stage management? You know they're probably looking for someone to fill that position! It's intellectual work, much more practical than actually singing or dancing in an audition! Right? And that way your feelings won't be hurt! You still get a good grade in mus-

AVERY stops CAROL.

**AVERY** 

Wh-why would my feelings be hurt Mom?

CAROL

Well Avey-baby you're not the strongest dancer.

**AVERY** 

I planned on singing actually.

CAROL

Singing, hm? Like your father? You want to follow in the footsteps of a little boy that left you behind like you were some sorry secret?

**AVERY** 

Mom, it's not like that, I feel as though I actually have a talent fo-

CAROL

Avery, that's exactly what you father said when he left me, left you, left us! Making all that money and