



ANNE FRANK PROJECT
BUFFALO STATE • The State University of New York



the anne frank project

TRASH Summary

TRASH follows two complete opposite characters, *Trasheed* (a trash can) and *Recycliana* (a recycling bin) as they travel from Buffalo, New York to environments around the globe to learn how to respect their purpose and build friendships in the face of adversity. Are they worthwhile? Do they really matter? Are they necessary? Answering these life-altering questions requires the help of some really wise people in really weird places! Can *Trasheed* and *Recycliana* *Break down to break through to break out to find their purpose?*! Poignant life lessons abound from these two unlikely sources—you'll never look at your 'garbage' the same!

TRASH

By THA 470 Ensemble Theater, FALL 2019

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partnership with SUNY Buffalo State's Theater Department

SUNY Buffalo State
Anne Frank Project, 2019

www.annefrankproject.com

Cast of Characters

OG:

LIL:

TRASHEEDA:

RECYCLIANA:

LEAD TEEN:

WORKER 1:

WORKER 2:

CLOCK:

L TRAIN:

Scene 1 - MLK Park

It is the summer of 2019. We are in a park with a beautiful pond. By this pond, there is a park shelter where family gatherings and parties take place. There is also a built in grill in the shelter. There is freshly green mowed grass, the birds are chirping, bees are buzzing, and butterflies are flying. This park is truly beautiful. The people who come to this park, well...not so much.

In this shelter there is a trash can and recycling bin, TRASHEEDA and RECYCLIANA. TRASHEEDA is blue and RECYCLIANA is green. There is tension between the two of them because they are envious of each other. TRASHEEDA wishes she could be RECYCLIANA, not filled with rotten food and feces. TRASHEEDA feels RECYCLIANA has it better. On the other hand, RECYCLIANA wishes she could be TRASHEEDA. RECYCLIANA doesn't get used as much as TRASHEEDA does. RECYCLIANA feels she has no purpose. They both feel unappreciated for the things they do to help keep the park clean. They are dirty and beat up from the mistreatment of the people in the park. There is a CLOCK that is old and rusty. OG enters and adjusts the clock, then goes on about his way.

Note: feel free to adjust the names to suit the gender identities of your cast.

CLOCK: (Dinging) It's 9:00 AM! Park is open!

There is a series of park-goers, when they use the bins, it is in slow motion.

ENTER joggers; they run, huffing and puffing. Chug water bottles, and slo-mo throw them into RECYCLIANA. They exit.

ENTER dog walker and excitable dog; Dog walker clearly has no control over his dog. Dog walker sets dog's waste on top of TRASHEEDA while the dog pees on can. They exit.

ENTER pizza party children; We hear them chanting pizza. Pizza man delivers the pizza and they start devouring it.

CLOCK: (Dinging) 8:00 PM! Park is closing soon.

Pizza party throws out the pizza box in RECYCLIANA. Pizza party runs off stage.
CLOCK: (*Dinging*) 9:00! Park is closed.

Cans are seen becoming animated.

ENTER OG and LIL inside a garbage truck built by the ENSEMBLE. OG steps outside truck.
OG: C'mon out. The only way you gon' learn is by doin' it.

LIL: Nah man. I'm good here. I'm more of a visual learner.

OG: (*Muttering*) These youngin's these days...

OG shakes his head and walks to empty the cans, while LIL entertains himself with his phone. As OG walks to the cans, he waves to the CLOCK. OG cleans out TRASHEEDA and RECYCLIANA every night and cleans/fixes any dents they may have. TRASHEEDA and RECYCLIANA feel comfortable speaking only to OG. The cans tell OG every night how awful their days are, and bicker among each other.

OG: So how you two doing today?

TRASHEEDA: I mean I'm good or whatever

RECYCLIANA: I'm OK. Someone put a pizza box in me today, and it was greasy! It was so gross! They don't understand that it mixes up the batch. Pizza boxes can't be recycled!

OG: Nothing could ruin your batch, Recycliana. Lemme take care of that for you.

OG takes the pizza box out.

RECYCLIANA: Thank you so much, you're the only one who understands!

TRASHEEDA: Why don't you give him a kiss while you're at it.

OG: Hey now Trasheeda, what's going on with you?

TRASHEEDA: A dog... you know... on me again. Like people don't know how to control they dogs or whatever.

OG: Well, I'm sorry to hear that, but he gonna help you out with this problem. (*gestures back to truck*) YO NEWBIE! I need some help. I cant reach down this far anymore, you know, my back ain't what it used to be.

TRASHEEDA and RECYCLIANA turn inanimate as LIL walks over, reluctantly.

LIL: (*In disgust*) OOOOO...this poop came from a bull?

LIL picks up the trash that was emptied from the cans and the poop, then walks to the truck, compacts the trash, then gets in the truck.

TRASHEEDA and RECYCLIANA become animate.

TRASHEEDA: Yeah a bulldog. Who was that?

OG: Oh, he's new. He'll get the hang of things eventually. I gotta go now, but always remember: You're important and you matter. You are trash cans, not trash cannots.

OG places the cans close to each other, and they smile at him until he leaves. OG gets in the truck and drives away, waving to the cans. As soon as the workers are out of sight, they stop smiling and separate to get as far away from each other as possible.

TRASHEEDA: You always complaining about something. What you can't handle a little grease? We're trash cans we're supposed to be dirty. That pizza box wasn't even that serious.

RECYCLIANA: 90% of all solid waste in the US doesn't get recycled so yeah, it *is* a big deal!

TRASHEEDA: Ugh, you should've just stayed in San Francisco with your uppity up family. No one told you to come to MLK Park.

The bins bicker a little more then go to sleep.

CLOCK: (*Dinging*) 9:00AM! Park is open!

This section is fast-forward until they use the