



3-PERSON SCENES

This scene is from a Stage Partners play, free to read in full at yourstagepartners.com.

Justice for Pluto by Barry Weber

1M, 2F
Drama

(DEVIN and NICOLE enter alongside NICOLE'S MOM. The STUDENTS begin their speech as NICOLE'S MOM stands eagerly upstage.)

DEVIN: Hello. My name is Devin.

NICOLE: And I'm Nicole.

DEVIN: And we're here to tell you about the planet Mercury.

NICOLE: Mercury is the closest planet to the sun. It is the smallest planet in our solar system.

DEVIN: Did you know that even ancient people knew about Mercury? People were able to see it when they looked up in the sky at night.

NICOLE: And because Mercury is so close to the sun, it gets really hot. During the day, its temperature can be over 800 degrees!

(Suddenly, NICOLE'S MOM jumps in front of the STUDENTS and takes over with dominating energy.)

NICOLE'S MOM: Hello, everyone! My name is Tina Rasmussen, and I'm Nicole's mom. I was assigned to help these kids come up with a positive action to their research. And when we talked about how hot Mercury gets, I asked the kids: how do you think you would feel if you lived on Mercury?

(Pause—she looks to the STUDENTS.)

NICOLE & DEVIN: ...Bad?

NICOLE'S MOM: That's right, you'd feel bad! And then I asked the kids: what would you want if you lived on a planet that hot? And the kids said—

(She looks to the STUDENTS.)

NICOLE & DEVIN: ...Fans?

NICOLE'S MOM: That's right! And so the kids and I got to work making paper fans. These fans will be for sale after the show, and we hope to use the money to help make Mercury less hot.

(NICOLE'S MOM backs away and motions for NICOLE and DEVIN to continue. The STUDENTS are clearly unnerved but resume their presentation.)

DEVIN: Another thing we found out about Mercury is that it also gets really cold.

Pg. 1 of 2



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NICOLE: It doesn't have any atmosphere to keep heat in, so when it's nighttime on Mercury, it goes from being really hot to being 200 degrees below zero! Isn't that interesting? I couldn't believe—

NICOLE'S MOM: *(Jumping back in:)* And that's when I stopped the kids and I asked them, what would you do if you were that cold? And what did you say, kids?

NICOLE & DEVIN: ...Wear something warm?

NICOLE'S MOM: And so I showed them how to knit these wonderful scarves. Well, I've been knitting. My Nicole is still working on finger weaving. *(Pause.)* Hey kids, why don't you show everyone what you've made so far?

(NICOLE'S MOM hands the STUDENTS their scarves. They reluctantly hold them up.)

NICOLE'S MOM: We will also be selling these scarves, with all the money going to help make Mercury less cold. Well kids, what do you say?

NICOLE & DEVIN: *(Subdued and embarrassed:)* Thank you.

(NICOLE'S MOM leads the STUDENTS in a group bow.)

End of Scene.

JUSTICE FOR PLUTO by Barry Weber

Length: 40-45 minutes

Cast Size: 21-45 actors (suggested casting: 4F, 1M, 16 any)

Genre: Comedy

Synopsis: It's time for the "Save Our Solar System" celebration! Tonight, experts from the Globex Corporation will show you how to clean up the planet Saturn by recycling your napkins. You'll also get to sign a petition to preserve Neptune's Great Dark Spot, and even sing along to a new pop song demanding a stop to Venus' acid rain! But nothing compares to the biggest quest of all: reinstating Pluto's status as the ninth planet in our Solar System! A comedy that's not afraid to explore corporate greenwashing, ecophobia, and the teacher savior complex.