EL<mark>LIP</mark>SES i.

CAST OF CHARACTERS

SINGULARITY, adult, a single parent of six Galaxies

GRAVITY, a dog

SPT0615-JD, young adult, Singularity's oldest child

CARTWHEEL, teen, Singularity's child

WHIRLPOOL, teen, Singularity's child

TRIANGULUM, teen, Singularity's child

ANDROMEDA, teen, Singularity's child

MILKY WAY, preteen, Singularity's youngest child

Supporting Characters

ABELL, young child, JD's eventual Galaxy, never utters a word INVARIANT, adult, Singularity's parent, appears in Act II

FIX, adult, Singularity's parent, appears in Act II

Ensemble

TIDALS, tidal forces personified as dogs
Bark: "Force" Howl: "Fall"

SOLAR SYSTEM, Milky Way's imaginary friends; principal characters are in brackets [] for potential doubling

MULTIPLICITIES, coupled Galaxies in the audience

- O Androgyny Astronomy: Each character resembles the androgynous nature, with open-ended vocal requirements
- O People of the Global Majority most represent the experiences of this universal family; cast accordingly

EL<mark>LIPSES 18.</mark>

SCENE 3

SINGULARITY enters.

SINGULARITY (CONT'D)

Something wrong, my Capricorn...? Tardigrades and Elevators? I remember making this for you, twenty-something eternities ago... I guess, nothing really changes... Declinations, JD.

JI

Nothing... Declinations, nomy/mother/father.

SINGULARITY

Speaking of declining. I know that Gravity and I seem to have a falling out. Gravity has been... Letting me down lately.

JD

Maybe you should let them out?

SINGULARITY

I let the tidal dogs out and the next thing you know you Gals are out and about. I'm not letting any of you play outside.

JD

I'm passed that. I'm an adult. I'm not going out to play.

(re: to settle down in a fresh space beyond the fourth wall and to start a family)

I'll make something of myself on the other side.

SINGULARITY

You can't make something out of nothing...

JD

How did you make us? Out of nothing?

SINGULARITY

JD (CONT'D)

JD...

Why...?

SINGULARITY (CONT'D)

How? When your black-hole hearts were small, I shed my light to you all, the lightless. Nothi-I picked equations, feeding you its finest photons. Now my oldest cluster of stars... Your heart is too massive for this Circle?

JD

My supermassive heart is ready. I have light to shed.

SINGULARITY

I will not let go of your light! My life will not be bled. All your luminosity stays here...
(MORE)

ELLIPSES 19.

SINGULARITY (CONT'D)

I know your urge to jump to another Circle. You're in a liminal space. It's also mine. You step out of this place and you're dead to me.

JD

You old Galaxy... This space is dead to me. "Crunch Time" no longer bears fruit for me. It is time I planted my own garden around my own Circle. I'm dying to know what's out there!

SINGULARITY

Arguing is fruitless... I'll answer why. JD... It did ring a bell. My... Illogical clock. It alerted me to end my old relationships. It became apparent that I had to leave my parents.

JD

Parents? You had multiple parents? Can I meet my grandparents...?

SINGULARITY

There is *nothing* to them, Bach Ho... They never poured a drop of light for me. They're apparently heartless.

JD.

Being a single parent sure did wonders to you.

SINGULARITY

Quit the antics. Speak physics, SPT0615-JD. Stop making light-

JD

I'll make light of myself. I need to shed my light. Light isn't made. It's passed down. I need to pass down. There's no longer enough space. That's why I'm shedding.

SINGULARITY

Oh the luminosit- You've got to be shedding me.

SINGULARITY hands the monocular to JD. They point out.

SINGULARITY (CONT'D)

You are old enough to respond to a heartless and lightless world beyond the Edge of the Universe, by not making light of it.

JD

You've raised my supermassive heart by pouring light into it. My lighty heart is ready to be shared with the heartless.

JD longingly scopes out the Edge.

ELLIPSES 20.

SINGULARITY

The point of my hearty outpouring is for you to forever lighten up. Do I make myself clear? You are never getting passed me.

JD

Our purpose is to pour out our hearts to those with less heart. I can only see light if another life lightens up. I need to make myself clear: I want to be as apparent as you. Singularity... Nothing gets passed you... Not even light.

6. "LUMINOUS"

SINGULARITY retakes the monocular.

SINGULARITY

WHY DON'T YOU ENLIGHTEN US? SHED SOME LIGHT TO YOUR FAMILY. FORGET ME, SINCERELY. LET OUR CENTERS SET US STRAIGHT...

Other GALAXIES enter in alignment.

SINGULARITY (CONT'D)

YOU BRIGHTEN MY ETERNITY. LUMINOUS.

TENDERNESS FOREVER LOOMS.
I HOLD YOUR FEATS TO THE FIRE.
LOOKING FORWARD TO WHAT COMES FOR YOU AND US.

WHAT IS ILLUMINATING ARE...

Us. And us. And us. And us. At the center of us all is heavy. What looms in us is light. Take it in. Our black holes. And you. (re: JD) At the center of yours is supermassive.

End of "LUMINOUS"

GRAVITY rushes in, scattering the GALAXIES. They scratch up the rug.

SINGULARITY grounds GRAVITY.

SINGULARITY (CONT'D)

You, Gravity, are a supermassive pain! You're ripping apart the family rug! Its spacetime fabric is passed down from my parents! Gravity. For the last time, you've let down this family. Entitled dog. I'm putting you down for eternity.

JD retakes the Big Bang Taser.

SINGULARITY reaches under the rug only to feel zilch. They soon notice that JD is armed.

ELLIPSES 21.

JD

My heart cannot choose who to take in. However, my heart can choose who to take out.

7. "BIG BANG"

SINGULARITY

YOU ARE A BIG...

JD shoots SINGULARITY in the face.

SINGULARITY gets electrocuted. They melodically shriek and jerk in their final squillo.

SINGULARITY (CONT'D)

MISTAKEEEEEE! AKE! AKE! AKE! AKE.

The light fluctuates. Appliances may short circuit and spark.

TIDALS (OFFSTAGE) (Repetitively barking)

BIG BIG BIG BIG!

SINGULARITY

ACHE... ELLIPSES... BIG BANG...

SINGULARITY falls headfirst onto the rug, crushing the snow globe. They are lifeless.

TIDALS (O.S.)

FALL! BIG BIG BIG BIG. BANG! BIG BANG!

The lights suddenly fill the stage. The side curtains open to reveal what's upstage. The cosmic quake expels tremors into the audience.

The TIDALS freely rush out and tidally dance around the stage. They try to lure all members of the theatre audience to go wild.

The AUDIENCES rock and roll!

It's the beginning of the Universe as we know it.

JD walks to the edge of the home, shifting from dolor to wonder. They carefully step out onto the stage. They stow away the Big Bang Taser in their dress. They look back at their petrified siblings.

EL<mark>LIP</mark>SES 22.

JD

My heart goes out to you all, family. However, my heart goes out for me and Gravity. Declinations!

GRAVITY nabs a knapsack. They grab JD and run out of the home. They run in place on stage. They soon stop when they notice their lack of progress. GRAVITY claws at the ground.

JD (CONT'D)

The Edge of the Universe? Where is the Edge...? It's further away?

JD takes a single step downstage.

The lights expand further out. The home moves upstage in between the back curtains.

JD (CONT'D)

It's getting further away. We're rolling out the Fabric of Spacetime like our rug... (Leveling with GRAVITY)

We're going to go off on a tangent. For all eternity. For the rest of spacetime.

The TIDALS unleash and run off.

GRAVITY

Free fall! Pets, no more! The wide-open space is ours. Destination's a gift. Destiny's Zenith.

(to JD, who did not hear the soliloquy)

Force!

JD

This is the beginning of a beautiful Universe.

JD reruns in place with GRAVITY.

In the home, most TEEN GALAXIES watch as the Universe unravels.

MILKY WAY mournfully wraps themself around the lifeless SINGULARITY.

TEEN GALAXIES

All our hearts have gone out with the Big Bang.

End of "BIG BANG"

The back curtains conceal the home.

Field equations bloom.