

# DIRECTOR'S SCRIPT



LIP

SES

Book, Music, and Lyrics  
DAVID QUANG PHAM

[www.ellipsesmusical.com](http://www.ellipsesmusical.com)

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## ELLIPSES

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The Universe

in a Musical

by

David Quang Pham

# WORKING TITLE PLAYWRIGHTS

## THANK YOU

Name	Role
Andrea Ghez Ed Loh	Professors of Galaxies
<a href="#">Janelle Lawrence</a>	Operatic/Musical Mentor
<a href="#">Kristin Idaszak</a>	Science Playwriting Mentor
Abby Holland	Originated Singer of Triangulum
Lau'rie Roach Bryan Montemayor Imani Vaughn-Jones Isake Akanke Kate Jacoby Daniela Cobb Lee Osorio Parris Sarter Mary Lynn Owen Jeff Hathcoat	Monday Night Development Workshops Readers
Laurel Anderson Barb Carboy	Observers



## DEVELOPMENT

Date	Type	Site	Specifics
2017	Idea	Michigan State	AST 308 Galaxies and Cosmology by Ed Loh
2020 8-15	Writing	Working Title Playwrights	Addae Moon's Master Class, "Generating Story Idea"
2020 10-5	Reading "Bounce"	Working Title Playwrights	Monday Night Critique Sessions
2020 12-7	Reading "In-Depth"	Working Title Playwrights	Monday Night Critique Sessions

## SYNOPSIS

An astrophysics epic, ELLIPSES centers on a family of Galaxies undoing the Big Bang, after a member sets it off. This coming-of-age musical follows a teenager and their dog running away from home. SPT0615-JD and Gravity, their tidal force, journey away from the center of our Universe. The story explores the Big Crunch Theory and Hubble's Law, which states that Galaxies must distance from the center. It is not unlike a human being, as we want to get out and explore. The analogy is expressed through these cosmic personifications. The set has a dome home to represent the center, the stage is space, and the fourth wall is the edge. The Universe is told through the human experience.

The teenage Galaxies begin their routine by staring out to the edge ("[Bounce](#)"). They are called to supper by their parent. Singularity nurtures them and their tidal dogs, but a child is missing at the table ("[Crunch](#)"). JD is still looking out. They just want to go to the edge of the Universe ("[Cutting Edge](#)"). However, Singularity speaks of its perils and sends them to bed ("[Fixed Stars](#)"). Letting JD out of bed, Triangulum outlines their family values ("[Anomaly is Everything](#)"). Eager for a voyage anyways, JD finds Singularity's Big Bang Taser stashed under the family's rug. JD deems the fabric of spacetime to be just as sturdy ("[Zilch](#)"). Later, Singularity assesses each of their child's black-hole hearts ("[Luminous](#)"). With this being the final straw, JD shoots their parent in the face with the Big Bang Taser. In the chaos, Gravity discreetly picks up Singularity's dislodged eye. Then, JD flees with Gravity to the edge, but the edge keeps distancing from them. It is like a rolled-up rug that JD keeps rolling away ("[Big Bang](#)").

Heartbroken, Singularity kicks out their children ("[Depth](#)") and has them spend an eternity trying to roll back the edge. The siblings blame one another for kickstarting the Universe ("[Superheated](#)"). In their isolation, Milky Way speaks to their Solar System ("[Warp, Waves, and Wrinkles](#)"). Elsewhere, JD and Gravity are on an adventure ("[Verse](#)"). Others try to quit and go home ("[Time is Relative](#)"). But they face Singularity's attack dogs, who ensure that no siblings merge ("[Spaghetti Horizon](#)"). Triangulum, Andromeda, and Milky Way band together but keep their distance ("[Globular](#)"). Soon, the Solar System develops into a swelling. Despite Triangulum's objections, Andromeda



comes to the aid of Milky Way. Before the dogs could pounce, Milky Way emits flares of light that scare them off ("[Fabric](#)").

A trillion years pass, and JD and Gravity are still traversing space. They find time to play fetch, which goes on for far too long and Gravity catches on JD's fugue. Through a stellar speech, Gravity explains that the point of return is far-fetched ("[Far-Fetched](#)").

From the center, Singularity observes their children through a telescope ("[Point](#)"). The edge is on the cosmic horizon.

In the following act, most siblings have clustered together ("[Bounce Back](#)"). They reach JD and Gravity ("[Accretion](#)"), and take them in. As they rest together, Gravity reveals that they have been holding Singularity's eye. Singularity's backstory is that they ran away from their own Universe ("[Heat Death](#)"). JD decides to continue as their parent had ("[Eccentricity](#)"). Upset by this choice, Triangulum breaks JD's monocular ("[The Scope of Things](#)"). Gravity distracts them by signaling the dogs to their location. In the frenzy, JD and Gravity race to the edge. Soon, Singularity calls off the dogs ("[Big Rip](#)"). The siblings make their way home ("[It's About Spacetime](#)").

An eternity passes, and JD is lost more than ever without their monocular. Gravity believes that one can overcome the parallax with their supermassive heart ("[Parallax](#)"). In that spirit, the edge unveils. Surrounded by spectacles reminding them of family, JD decides to head back, taking the edge with them ("[Tangent](#)"). JD tries to give back Singularity's eye when they return, but they do not forgive JD. After giving Gravity one last hug, JD jumps off the edge ("[Dot Dot Dot](#)"). In these millennia of grief, the siblings hold each other close ("[\\*](#)"). Singularity chooses to take in their eye, restoring their depth perception. Singularity looks beyond. JD is amongst their own family. To the eye of the beholder, it is an ellipse full of Galaxies. JD has found their center ("[Hearts in the Right Place](#)").

All of a sudden in JD's honor, Gravity returns with a wolfpack. The Galaxies and the tidal forces end time in this epic showdown ("[The Spaghettification of Zenith](#)"). When all is lost, Singularity and their Galaxies pray at their table in the center of our Universe as the tidal forces consume them ("[Big Crunch](#)"). In the darkness, a bang is seen and heard again ("[Big Bounce](#)").

Nothing is anomaly like family. Nothing is everything.



# CHARACTER BREAKDOWN

○ Androgyny and Astronomy ○

Character	Nature	Identity
<u>SPT0615-JD</u> The distant galactic sibling who believes in “nothing.” JD wants to be at the edge of the Universe.	Embryonic Galaxy	Young Adult
<u>SINGULARITY</u> The relativistically impossible guardian. Singularity wants to keep their Universe intact.	Super Infinite Black Hole	Adult
<u>GRAVITY</u> A tidal dog. Gravity wants to ground the wide-open space.	Tidal Force	Any
<u>TRIANGULUM</u> The jingoistic galactic sibling. Triangulum wants to be the role model.	Spiral Galaxy	Teenager
<u>ANDROMEDA</u> The naval galactic sibling. Andromeda wants to find the pearl in this universal oyster.	Spiral Galaxy	Teenager
<u>MILKY WAY</u> The aimless galactic sibling. Milky Way wants to make themselves useful.	Barred Spiral Galaxy	Preadolescent
<u>WHIRLPOOL</u> The anaerobic galactic sibling. Whirlpool wants to spiral into risk control.	Grand-Design Spiral Galaxy	Teenager
<u>CARTWHEEL</u> The aerobic galactic sibling. Cartwheel wants to earn their rings.	Ring Galaxy	Teenager

Ensembles		
<u>TIDALS</u>	<u>SOLAR SYSTEMS</u>	<u>MULTIPLICITIES</u>
	Sun (Singularity)	1 or A-Ω
	Earth (ensemble)	2
	Jupiter (Whirlpool)	
	Saturn (Cartwheel)	
	Uranus (Triangulum)	
	Eris (JD)	
	Oort Cloud (Andromeda)	

## BRIGHT IDEA

<u>ABELL 2261</u>	Elliptical Galaxy	Onlooker
An anomalous galactic sweetheart, beyond the edge of the Universe. “Abell” is the stage name of JD’s performer’s literal loved one in the audience. Their heart is not a supermassive black hole, much like Multiplicities.		





## **TIDALS**

Tidals are tidal forces personified as canines. Over the course of the story, the dogs evolve into wolves.

The barks and woofs of Tidals are uttered by barking: "Force." Their howls are uttered by howling: "Fall." Singularity and most Galaxies cannot converse with the Tidals. Along JD's and Gravity's voyage to the edge of the Universe, JD eventually understands the tidal language.

## **SOLAR SYSTEMS**

Solar Systems are celestial bodies that speak to Milky Way when they wander the Universe alone. They are like imaginary friends, before these planetary friends physically come to life as puppets and dancers. During the first act, they speak for several billion years (quarter-hour staging time) before the Sun becomes a red giant (swelling). Any set of cast members may voice our general Solar System. The principal casts are marked in parentheses for convenient doubling.

## **MULTIPLICITIES**

Multiplicities are Singularity's parental figures from their native universe. They are like Galaxies except they have no supermassive black holes for their hearts. They are personified as law enforcers from another universe, where the laws of physics are different and someone with a black-hole heart, like Singularity, is an anomaly. In "Heat Death," Multiplicities cry out for Singularity, after Singularity runs away from home (the center of their own Universe). They do not make an appearance but may be represented as silhouettes when Singularity is in front of the stage. Each Multiplicity are alphabetized to mean that at least two performers portray them, as long as they switch back and forth in the lines.

## MUSICAL NUMBERS

♪ #	Page	Title	Characters	◦Present but unvocal
1.	13	<a href="#">Bounce</a>	JD TRIANGULUM ANDROMEDA MILKY WAY WHIRLPOOL CARTWHEEL	
2.	16	<a href="#">Crunch</a>	SINGULARITY TRIANGULUM ANDROMEDA MILKY WAY WHIRLPOOL CARTWHEEL JD GRAVITY tidals	
3.	22	<a href="#">Cutting Edge</a>	JD GRAVITY TRIANGULUM ANDROMEDA MILKY WAY WHIRLPOOL CARTWHEEL SINGULARITY	
4.	29	<a href="#">Fixed Stars</a>	SINGULARITY ANDROMEDA JD TRIANGULUM MILKY WAY WHIRLPOOL CARTWHEEL	
5.	35	<a href="#">Anomaly is Everything</a>	TRIANGULUM JD	
6.	38	<a href="#">Zilch</a>	JD GRAVITY tidals	
7.	43	<a href="#">Luminous</a>	SINGULARITY JD TRIANGULUM ANDROMEDA MILKY WAY WHIRLPOOL CARTWHEEL	
8.	45	<a href="#">Big Bang</a>	JD SINGULARITY GRAVITY TRIANGULUM ANDROMEDA MILKY WAY WHIRLPOOL CARTWHEEL tidals	
9.	51	<a href="#">Depth</a>	SINGULARITY TRIANGULUM ANDROMEDA MILKY WAY WHIRLPOOL CARTWHEEL tidals	
10.	60	<a href="#">Superheated</a>	WHIRLPOOL TRIANGULUM CARTWHEEL ANDROMEDA MILKY WAY	
11.	65	<a href="#">Verse</a>	JD GRAVITY	
12.	73	<a href="#">Warp, Waves, and Wrinkles</a>	MILKY WAY solar systems	
13.	82	<a href="#">Time is Relative</a>	WHIRLPOOL CARTWHEEL	
14.	93	<a href="#">Spaghetti Horizon</a>	SINGULARITY WHIRLPOOL CARTWHEEL tidals	
15.	100	<a href="#">Globular</a>	ANDROMEDA TRIANGULUM	
16.	108	<a href="#">Far-Fetched</a>	GRAVITY JD	
17.	116	<a href="#">Fabric</a>	TRIANGULUM ANDROMEDA MILKY WAY tidals	
18.	119	<a href="#">Point</a>	SINGULARITY multiplicity tidals	
19.	123	<a href="#">Bounce Back</a>	TRIANGULUM ANDROMEDA MILKY WAY WHIRLPOOL CARTWHEEL	
20.	133	<a href="#">Accretion</a>	JD GRAVITY TRIANGULUM ANDROMEDA MILKY WAY WHIRLPOOL CARTWHEEL	
21.	144	<a href="#">Heat Death</a>	SINGULARITY multiplicities tidals GRAVITY	
22.	159	<a href="#">Eccentricity</a>	JD GRAVITY TRIANGULUM ANDROMEDA MILKY WAY WHIRLPOOL CARTWHEEL	
23.	163	<a href="#">The Scope of Things</a>	TRIANGULUM ANDROMEDA MILKY WAY WHIRLPOOL CARTWHEEL JD GRAVITY	



♯	Page	Title	Characters	◦Present but unvocal
24.	170	<a href="#">Big Rip</a>	ANDROMEDA MILKY WAY SINGULARITY tidals TRIANGULUM WHIRLPOOL CARTWHEEL	
25.	179	<a href="#">Parallax</a>	GRAVITY JD	
26.	183	<a href="#">Tangent</a>	JD GRAVITY	
27.	189	<a href="#">It's About Spacetime</a>	SINGULARITY TRIANGULUM ANDROMEDA MILKY WAY WHIRLPOOL CARTWHEEL	
28.	198	<a href="#">Dot Dot Dot</a>	JD SINGULARITY GRAVITY TRIANGULUM ANDROMEDA MILKY WAY WHIRLPOOL CARTWHEEL	
29.	205	<a href="#">*</a>	WHIRLPOOL ANDROMEDA MILKY WAY CARTWHEEL TRIANGULUM SINGULARITY	
30.	207	<a href="#">Hearts in the Right Place</a>	JD SINGULARITY TRIANGULUM ANDROMEDA MILKY WAY WHIRLPOOL CARTWHEEL multiplicities	
31.	208	<a href="#">(The Spaghettification of) Zenith</a>	GRAVITY SINGULARITY TRIANGULUM ANDROMEDA  MILKY WAY WHIRLPOOL CARTWHEEL tidals	
32.	215	<a href="#">Big Crunch</a>	SINGULARITY TRIANGULUM ANDROMEDA MILKY WAY WHIRLPOOL CARTWHEEL tidals	
33.	218	<a href="#">Big Bounce</a>	COMPANY	
		<a href="#">Able</a>	ABELL	

## MUSICAL CHARACTERIZATIONS

JD| “The edge of the Universe” is sung: The(D3-5) edge(B2-4) of(A2-4) the(F#2-4) u(G2-4)-ni(F#2-4)-verse(F#2-4→D2-4)

SINGULARITY| The hums are the longing melodies in “Heat Death”: D3-5 B2-4 C#3-5 G#2-4 E2-4 F#2-4 G#2-4 F#2-4

TRIANGULUM| Associative Instruments: Triangle, Handbell

MILKY WAY| Associative Instrument: Cowbell (may be attached to Milky Way’s physicality or personality)

CARTWHEEL| Associative Instruments: Jingle Ring Tambourine, Jingle Bell

ABELL| Leitmotif from “Able” whenever Abell is focused upon. “Able” is in the second phrase in “Hearts in the Right Place.”

## SCENES

Act	Page	Location	SET props
Ii	13	The Center of the Universe	DOME HOME RUG(dark) SEATS(7) TABLE balls balm Big Bang Taser dishes knapsack monoculars(2) snow globe whoopie cushion
Iii	65	The Fabric of Spacetime	FIELD EQUATIONS (including $v = H_0 D$ , $\Delta t = (\Delta t_0) / \sqrt{1 - v^2 / c^2}$ ) balm knapsack magnolia flowers(2) monoculars
Iiii	88	The Center of the Universe	DOME HOME RUG(dark) SEATS(6) TABLE Big Bang Taser snow globe(smashed)
Iiv	96	The Fabric of Spacetime	balls balm knapsack monoculars
Iv	119	The Center of the Universe	DOME HOME SEATS(1) TABLE RUG(dark) snow globe telescope
IIIi	123	The Fabric of Spacetime	balls knapsack
IIii	144	Singularity's Past Universe	DOME HOME Big Bang Taser fabric(dark)
IIiii	154	The Fabric of Spacetime	FIELD EQUATIONS (including $d = 1 / p$ ) balls domes(5) knapsack monoculars(2)
IIiv	183	The Edge of the Universe	balls(2)
IIV	188	The Center of the Universe	DOME HOME RUG(dark) SEATS(6) TABLE Big Bang Taser
III	218	A Fresh Universe	DOME HOME RUG(dark) SEATS(6) TABLE snow globe

## THE CENTER OF THE UNIVERSE

### Pre-Big Bang & Big Bounce

~~~~~  
back curtains

UPSTAGE

~~~~~  
side curtain ( DOME HOME ) side curtain

DOWNSTAGE

DOWNSTAGE

FOURTH WALL

### Post-Big Bang

~~~~~  
side curtain ( DOME HOME ) side curtain

UPSTAGE

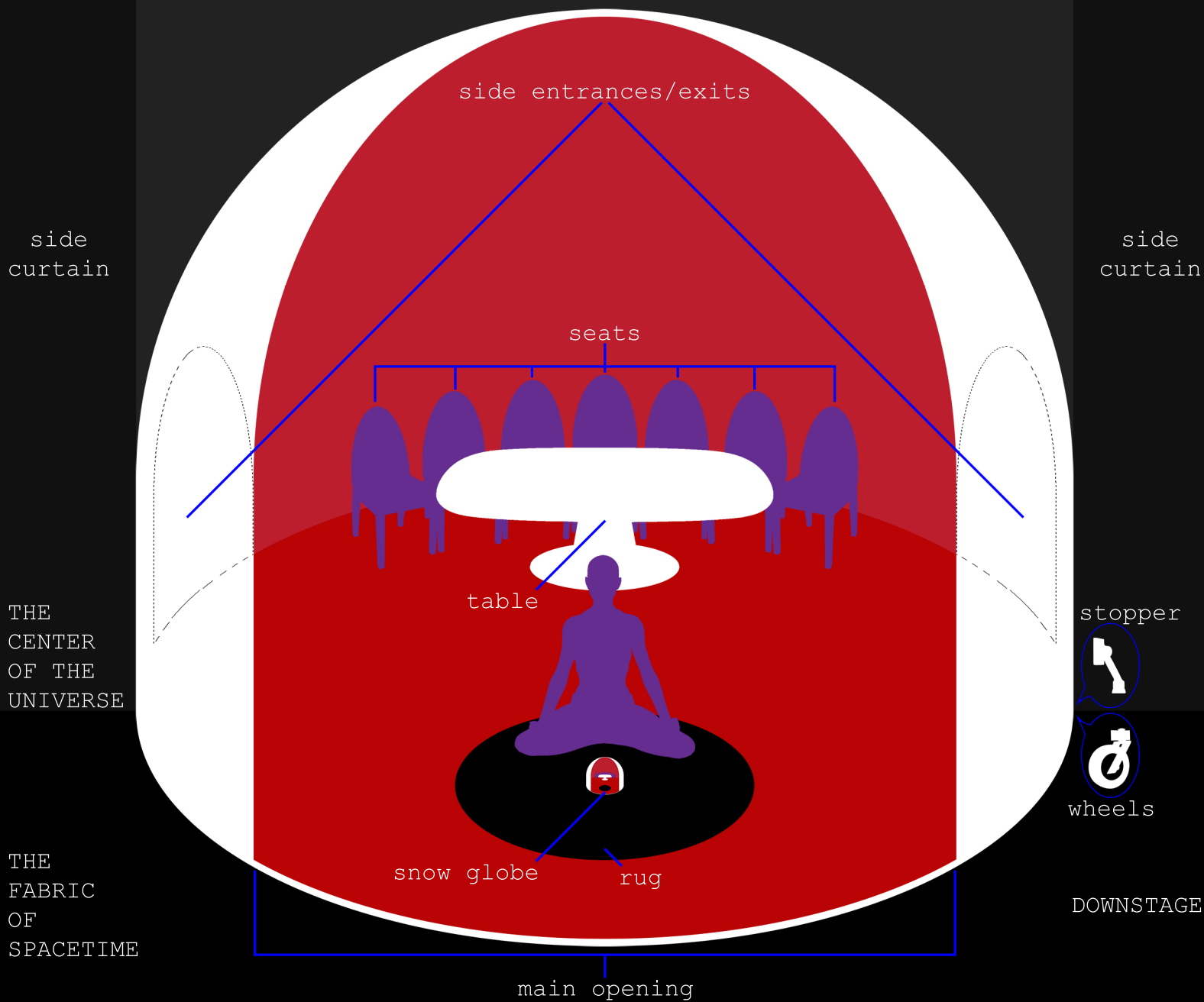
UPSTAGE

DOWNSTAGE

DOWNSTAGE

FOURTH WALL

# DOME HOME



THE EDGE OF THE UNIVERSE

FOURTH WALL



# ACT I



## ELLIPSES

ELLIPSES is a coming-of-age musical about a family of Galaxies trying to undo the Big Bang, after a member sets it off. JD, Triangulum, Andromeda, Milky Way, Whirlpool, and Cartwheel are Galaxies. Singularity is their parental figure. Gravity is a tidal dog. The Tiduals (T I D A L) are tidal forces personified as family dogs. Abell (A B E L L) is the stage name of the silent person in the audience that only JD sees from the stage. The story begins in their dome at the center of the Universe before the Big Bang. Outside the dome, the stage is off limits. The household contains a snow globe that resembles their home. The household has a dark elliptical rug that resembles space.

The story starts with JD scoping out the edge of the Universe. Their siblings do the same, but all they have ever seen is "nothing." However, JD, the oldest sibling who is in that stage of their life where they want to leave their family and perhaps have one of their own, sees "Abell." Singularity calls their family up for supper. At the table, most are present to say grace. Singularity tries to call up JD, but JD remains distant. Singularity confronts JD, and vaguely mentions that they were raised in another Universe and how they could not return home. Then, Singularity sends the Galaxies to bed. Triangulum, the goody-two-shoes sibling, sneaks JD out of their bedroom. Triangulum tries to persuade JD to not run away from home and that though JD is an anomaly, "Anomaly is Everything" to family.

The last thing Triangulum says before leaving JD alone with their thoughts is "*Nothing* is anomaly like family." Now begins the reading, which will lead up to the inciting incident of ELLIPSES.

**Content Warning:** There is an act of violence at the inciting incident.

6. ZILCH

JD

NOTHING, NOTHING, NOTHING.  
NOTHING? NOTHING? NOTHING?  
NOTHING, NOTHING, NOTHING.  
ZILCH, NOTHING.

*(Holding the snow globe up to their eye.)*

RETURN, RETURN, RETURN.  
TO WHERE? TO WHERE? TO WHERE?  
SOMETHING, SOMETHING, SOMETHING.  
ZILCH, SOME THINGS

ARE FAMILIAR.  
OUR NOMY'S/MOTHER'S/FATHER'S A LIAR.  
SINGULAR—

*(Placing the snow globe on the rug.)*

UNDERNEATH...

*(Orbiting the snow globe.)*

I AM ZILCH.

WHO'S FAMILIAR  
BEING AN OUTLIER.  
IT IS I.

WHOSE FAMILY IS  
SOMETHING OLD, OUTDATED.  
EXCEPT ME.

*(Kicking up the rug over the snow globe.)*

UNDERNEATH...

*(Discovering the hidden BB Taser underneath.  
They warily kneel to pick up the BB Taser.)*

THERE IS ZILCH?

*(The TIDALs remain absent.)*



**TIDALs**

*(Terrified.)*

Fall...

**JD**

Matters beyond assimilation? Why are you here?

*(Reading the inscriptions on the BB Taser.)*

I FOUND A  
BB... BB TASER?

*(JD ignites the BB Taser.)*

*[Static ripples through the soundscape.]*

Forces beyond imagination? Where does it go from there?

I FEEL THE  
BBT... BIG BANG THEORY.

Light. Illuminating...

*[End of "Zilch."]*

*(SINGULARITY remains absent.)*

**SINGULARITY**

Zilch. Shocking...

*(JD stows away the BB Taser in their clothes.  
They swiftly unroll the rug back to its  
initial position, with the snow globe on it.)*

*(SINGULARITY enters.)*

**SINGULARITY**

*(Sarcastically.)*

*To see you wide awake.*

**JD**

You're always looming over us... May you shed some light?

**SINGULARITY**

What do you want me to shed light on...? *Who...?*

**JD**

Yourself...

**SINGULARITY**

Stop making light...

**JD**

Making light of...?

**SINGULARITY**

My eternity.

**JD**

What was eternity like before me and my sibling's eternities?

**SINGULARITY**

*(Irritably.)*

Oh, the luminosity...



**JD**

Where did you get it? All that light. For me as a Galaxy, you have provided that light. That also means, you inherited them...?

**SINGULARITY**

Speak physics, SPT0615-JD.

**JD**

Did this light get passed down from your parent?

**SINGULARITY**

My heartless parents...

**JD**

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

**SINGULARITY**

Didn't you hear me? They're heartless. And every Galaxy in this Universe has a heart. It is not possible for them to be here. Indeed, having more than one parent was supermassive and added up... To what I currently sacrifice as Singularity. When I was in their Universe, each of their love was fractional. There is everything to be proud of when raising you and your five siblings as a single parent. My love is forever wholesome.

**JD**

You were born and raised in another Universe...? Wait, you're saying that there are indeed other Galaxies out there?

**SINGULARITY**

There is nothing out there. Nothing outside of this home.

**JD**

I once saw nothing out there with my younger siblings. But when I got older, I truly knew that nothing is in here.

**SINGULARITY**

Are you saying that family means nothing to you?

**JD**

Yes. And I hope a someone like me feels that way about the center of the universe that I'll have of my own.

**SINGULARITY**

Oh no. The only center of any universe is here, with me and my six clusters of stars. You sure are an anomaly. My anomaly.

**JD**

I'm not sure if I have maturity. I do have your responsibility.

*(SINGULARITY pulls out a monocular and hands it to JD. They point outside.)*

**SINGULARITY**

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. Its light is ready to be shared with the heartless.

**SINGULARITY**

The point of my hearty outpouring is for you to forever lighten up. Not to let you lighten down. You're never getting passed me.



JD

The point of your heart is inherently mine. Like you,  
nomy/mother/father, before my heart outgrew yours, the purpose  
of life is to pour my heart out to someone with less heart. The  
only way I can see the light is if another Galaxy lightens up.  
If my heart is pointless, then your heart is pointless, too.  
Singularity... Nothing gets passed you... Not even light.

## 7. LUMINOUS

### **SINGULARITY**

YOU HONESTLY SHOULD LIGHTEN UP.  
DO IT FOR YOUR SINCERITY.  
FORGIVE ME, SINCERELY.  
SINGLENESSE ILLUMINATES...

*(Noticing the snow globe on the rug. They  
go to pick up the snow globe.)*

*(JD blocks SINGULARITY's path, so they do not  
discover that the Big Bang Taser was found.)*

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

*(The rest of the GALAXIEs enter.)*

*(SINGULARITY aligns each GALAXY.)*

YOU BRIGHTEN MY ETERNITY.  
  
LUMINOUS,  
MY PARENTS NO LONGER LOOM.  
THEY CAN'T HOLD ANY CANDLE.  
AND WOULD READILY CAST AWAY YOU AND US.

**SINGULARITY** (cont.)

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

*(Lovingly pinching MILKY WAY. They try to align JD.)*

WHAT IS ILLUMINATING ARE...

*(Addressing each GALAXY except JD.)*

Us. And 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.

*[End of "Luminous."]*

*(GRAVITY and the TIDALS enter and gather around.)*

*(SINGULARITY focuses on JD.)*

And you... At the center of yours, is supermassive.

*(JD scopes out the edge of the Universe. They longingly see ABELL in the audience.)*

**JD**

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

**SINGULARITY**

*Well taken. There's nothing to take out, but family.*

*(JD does not take it lightly.)*

## 8. BIG BANG

### **SINGULARITY**

YOU ARE A  
BIG...

*(JD draws out the Big Bang Taser. They shoot SINGULARITY in the face.)*

*(SINGULARITY gets electrocuted. They melodically shriek before they increasingly inaudibly jerk in place.)*

MISTAKEEEEEEE!

*[The light fluctuates within the home. Appliances may short circuit and spark.]*

### **TIDALs**

BIG BIG BIG BIG BIG!

*(JD regretfully drops the Big Bang Taser.)*

*(GRAVITY kicks away the Big Bang Taser.)*

*(SINGULARITY grows physically vegetative.)*

### **SINGULARITY**

ELLIPSES...

*(Elliptically squinting.)*

BIG BANG...

*(Abruptly slamming their face onto the table into unconsciousness.)*

**TIDALS**

*(Howling.)*

Fall!

*(Repeating.)*

BIG BIG BIG BIG BIG. BANG!

*[The snow globe explodes.]*

*[The light suddenly fills the stage. The side curtains open to reveal what's upstage.]*

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

*(JD gently walks to the edge of the home to look out, shifting from grief to wonder.)*

*(GRAVITY appears to pick up a sphere by SINGULARITY's feet.)*

*(The GALAXIES at the table look upon SINGULARITY.)*

*(MILKY WAY expresses utmost sorrow.)*

**TRIANGULUM**

S P T ZER- SIX... WHY...

**CARTWHEEL**

IT HAD TO BE YOU?





## WHIRLPOOL

WHY WOULD YOU RISK THIS UNI—

*(MILKY WAY weeps on SINGULARITY.)*

## MILKY WAY

NOMY/MAMA/PAPA SING!

## ANDROMEDA

OUR UNIVERSE HAS END...

*(The Galaxies at the table suddenly face JD.)*

## GALAXIES not JD

DEAD, YOU ARE.  
BIGGEST FLAW.  
BIGGER FEARS.  
BIG BRAINED FOOL.  
BIT THE HAND THAT FEEDS.  
HEART THAT FELT.

## JD

MY SUPERMASSIVE HEART GOES OUT TO YOU ALL, FAMILY.  
BUT MY SUPERMASSIVE HEART GOES OUT FOR ME AND GRAVITY.

*(GRAVITY grabs a knapsack full of balls,  
embodying stars. They grab JD and run out.)*

*(TRIANGULUM, ANDROMEDA, WHIRLPOOL, and  
CARTWHEEL step away from SINGULARITY to  
watch as the Universe unravels.)*

*(MILKY WAY mournfully wraps themself around  
the lifeless SINGULARITY.)*

*(JD and GRAVITY run in place. They stop in their tracks when they notice their lack of progress.)*

**JD**

The edge of the universe? Where is the edge?

**GRAVITY**

Force!

**JD**

It's further away?

*(Taking a step.)*

*[The light expands further out. The home moves far back in between the back curtains.]*

It's *getting* further away.

*(GRAVITY claws at the ground.)*

The fabric of spacetime is fabric, after all. And we're rolling it out, like our rug.

*(Leveling with GRAVITY.)*

We're going to go off on a tangent... For all eternity.

*(The TIDALs briefly step out of the home.)*

*(JD points towards the TIDALs in the home.)*

For the rest of spacetime.

*(GRAVITY motions for the TIDALs to join.)*

*(The TIDALs are unwilling.)*

### **GRAVITY**

Zenith...

*(Deciding to move on. They address JD.)*

Force!

*(JD stands, grateful to have a travel buddy.)*

### **JD**

This is the beginning of a beautiful Universe.

*(Leaving with GRAVITY on a journey.)*

### **GALAXIES not JD**

DID REAL DAMAGE...

A BANG-UP JOB!

YOU ARE MAKING

A BIG MISTAKE!

*(The TIDALs disappear into the home.)*

*(TRIANGULUM grieves at the sight of the cosmic mess that JD left in their wake.)*

### **TRIANGULUM**

ALL OUR HEARTS HAVE GONE

OUT WITH THE

BIG BANG...

*[End of "Big Bang."]*