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

CAST OF CHARACTERS

SINGULARITY, adult, a single parent of six Galaxies

GRAVITY, a dog

HD1, 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, HD'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>LIP</mark>SES 1.

ACT I

SCENE 1

THE CENTER OF THE UNIVERSE

Light resides within The Circle, stationed downstage center. Inside its Dome is a table and a rug. The stage outside seems off limits and teems with floral equations. The side curtains conceal the upstage.

SINGULARITY is outside, picking equations and setting them in a mortar bowl. They then head to the rug to meditate.

The MULTIPLICITIES are in the audience.

MULTIPLICITIES

Nothing.

Alert, SINGULARITY draws out the Big Bang Taser and ignites it outwards.

The lights flicker. The curtains ripple. The Universe is wondrous.

The TIDALS distantly whimper.

A shadow of HD in a shooting stance protrudes from the home.

From the audience, ABELL enters. They sit in a front row seat.

SINGULARITY stows away the Big Bang Taser under the rug, returning the Universe back to its void stasis.

SINGULARITY

Nothing...

HD enters, carrying a pestle.

SINGULARITY hands the bowl to HD. They disappear inside the home.

HD unveils a monocular from the pestle. They position themself at the edge of the home and set down the bowl. They scope out.

ELLIPSES 2.

1. "BOUNCE"

TRIANGULUM wanders out, holding a snow globe that resembles the home. They head over to HD. They snatch their monocular to scope out. They toss it behind.

TRIANGULUM

NOTHING.

WHIRLPOOL spirals out. They catch or pick up the monocular. They scope out.

WHIRLPOOL

NOTHING!

CARTWHEEL cartwheels out. They snatch the monocular from WHIRLPOOL. They scope out.

CARTWHEEL

NOTHING!

ANDROMEDA pops out.

CARTWHEEL hands the monocular to ANDROMEDA.

ANDROMEDA scopes out. They stow away the monocular.

ANDROMEDA

NOTHING!

MILKY WAY, looking disheveled, strolls in.

MILKY WAY

NUTHIN' ...

The TEEN GALAXIES - CARTWHEEL, WHIRLPOOL, TRIANGULUM, ANDROMEDA, MILKY WAY - cluster in the center of the home.

TEEN GALAXIES

LET'S BOUNCE!

The TEEN GALAXIES bounce away from one another and land by their respective walls. In choreographic exposition, they distinctly dance alongside it and pose at certain melodic phrases.

ELLIPSES 3.

SINGULARITY (OFFSTAGE)

MILKY WAY! ANDROMEDA! TRIANGULUM! WHIRLPOOL! CARTWHEEL! HD!

MILKY WAY makes their way to the table.

ANDROMEDA sails to the table.

TRIANGULUM triangulates to the table and sets down the snow globe.

WHIRLPOOL spirals to the table.

CARTWHEEL cartwheels to the table.

HD extends their arm out. They head to the table with the bowl.

HD

ABELL...

All TIDALS prowl in and surround the table. GRAVITY decrescendos in.

SINGULARITY arrives with dishes.

End of "BOUNCE"

GALAXIES

Singularity. Declinations.

The GALAXIES bow.

HD hands the bowl to SINGULARITY.

SINGULARITY sets the table.

GRAVITY

(Narrating)

Nothing comes close to family. Except "pets." I'm Gravity. I've been here for infinite dog years. And this is the story of the Galaxy family.

SINGULARITY shushes GRAVITY. They bow.

SINGULARITY

Declinations, family.

GRAVITY

Singularity. The single parent who's closed off the outside world for quite some time. Eternities in fact. However, the kids stay kids. Milky Way is the baby sibling. EL<mark>LIP</mark>SES 4.

MILKY WAY hugs SINGULARITY.

The GALAXIES sit, with TRIANGULUM sitting on the whoopee cushion.

SINGULARITY

Sounds like someone's been enjoying my gas qiants.

TRIANGULUM

Quit the snickers, Milky Way!

CARTWHEEL and WHIRLPOOL high five.

GRAVITY

Cartwheel and Whirlpool are the most relative. Not even time can separate them. Andromeda is?

ANDROMEDA plays with their meal. They mumble their shanty.

ANDROMEDA

Let's set sail over seven spaces. Go dig up pearls in their clams. The whole Universe is ye oyster.

GRAVITY

Triangulum is such a square.

GRAVITY touches TRIANGULUM's dish.

TRIANGULUM slaps away GRAVITY. They unnervingly scratch GRAVITY's ear.

TRIANGULUM

That's not for you to gravitate to. Stupid tidal force. Living with a vacuum between those ears?

HD snatches a dish. They set it on the ground for the TIDALS.

The TIDALS bark while SINGULARITY tries getting them to sit.

TIDALS SINGULARITY

Force! Force! Force! Fix... Fix... Fix...

GRAVITY

We Tidals like this one. The Circle is bearable with our oldest and reddest Galaxy: HD1.

HD is on the edge. While their siblings see "nothing" out there, HD sees a future circle in the nothingness. Past the Edge of the Universe. I sense they hope to have a circle of their own. This Dome is all we've ever known.

(MORE)

ELLIPSES 5.

GRAVITY (CONT'D)

HD deserves a life of their own. What adult doesn't wanna leave home to go explore the Universe?

Singularity does not own us: Galaxies or me, a tidal force. Singularity can't hold us forever. Singularity shall face the Big Bang even if it's the last thing Gravity does. For now, forever, I, Gravity, will let ya down. I've got time to kill. In Zenith. Force!

The GALAXIES look out.

SINGULARITY

Children. Galaxies. If any of you escape my gravitational pull and walk out, you'd rip up the Fabric of Spacetime. Then I, the grandmaster of the Universe, will be out of order. We've got all the cosmic formulas right here in our Circle. With my wrists and blackhole heart, I cooked you nebulae something special: nuclear pasta and meteors!

CARTWHEEL

Special for the trillionth time, you Bach Ho. ("Bach Ho" is Vietnamese for "white tiger," sounds like "black hole," and implies tiger parenting.)

SINGULARITY

Besides your oldest sibling here, ya'll cannot cook for cosmic dust. You'd die without us...
Your tiger nomy/mom/dad is rather pleased that this special meal is heated to over ten million degrees Kelvin and spun in the cosmic microwave background at the angular velocity of a dozen sine squared its solar latitude minus one sine to its fourth power. Strongest material in the cosmos. A variety of nutrition from the crusts of neutron stars. Dismantle the mantle. But leave the core. I'd love to planet these.

MILKY WAY dives into their dish.

TRIANGULUM

Again, Milky Way?

ANDROMEDA

Ye mostly photons, Triangulum.

CARTWHEEL

Calories take millennia to burn, Andromeda.

WHIRLPOOL

A simple nap ain't last any longer, Cartwheel.

ELLIPSES 6.

SINGULARITY

Ya'll went through this phase of overeating. You want to accrete and be a Grand-Design Spiral Galaxy, don't you? Like Whirlpool?

CARTWHEEL mocks WHIRLPOOL's physique.

WHIRLPOOL

You may be well rounded, but you ain't got spiral arms in this fight. You're full of heavy blue stars. Ring a bell, Ring Galaxy?

CARTWHEEL

Gal, I put no weight or stress on myself. All you are are stretched-out circles. You all are the morbidly spiral Galaxies.

ANDROMEDA

Least ye not a two-dimensional square, like this Galaxy.

TRIANGULUM

I'll run faster than light circles around you, Galaxies.

TRIANGULUM tosses the whoopee cushion at CARTWHEEL and WHIRLPOOL, causing them go on the defense.

MILKY WAY

(Mouthful of nuclear pasta)

Kau tau to you, ellipsoids.

CARTWHEEL, WHIRLPOOL, TRIANGULUM Shut your wormhole, you quasi-gala-baby!

SINGULARITY

Oneness, clusters of stars! Gals. Your hearts are all vigorous.

SINGULARITY sits. They lovingly pinch MILKY WAY's cheek.

SINGULARITY (CONT'D)

Always full of grace. Let us save space.

SINGULARITY and the GALAXIES pray.

HD slowly drifts to the edge of the home.

ELLIPSES 7.

2. "CRUNCH"

SINGULARITY

FEED THAT HOLE IN YOUR HEART. GIVE INTO INTERNAL DARKNESS. SHED OUR LIGHT FOR NO ONE. AS IT'S CRUNCH TIME, GALAXIES.

IN BLACK HOLES, DWELL WISDOM. FED BY THE SPRINKLES OF STARDUST. CRUSH THEIR DREAMS IN YOUR PALM. IT IS CRUNCH TIME, MY BABIES.

TEEN GALAXIES

CONSUME STAR SYSTEMS.
CONSUME WORLDS THAT TEEM.
CONSUMED BY THOUGHTS OF FAMILY. FAMILY...

SINGULARITY

STRING BY STRING IN THEORY. AND FABRIC BY SPACETIME FABRIC. HOLD OUR LOVE AS A WHOLE. IT IS CRUNCH TIME, WE BELIEVE.

WHIRLPOOL

IT IS CRUNCH TIME, SINGULARITY.

TRIANGULUM

IT IS CRUNCH TIME, SINGULARITY.

CARTWHEEL

IT IS CRUNCH TIME, SINGULARITY.

ANDROMEDA

IT IS CRUNCH TIME, SINGULARITY.

MILKY WAY

IT TIS CRUNCH TIME, NOMY/MOMMY/DADDY SING.

SINGULARITY

IT IS CRUNCH TIME, HD? HD1?

End of "CRUNCH"

3. "CUTTING EDGE (MAKE MYSELF CLEAR)"

GRAVITY approaches HD.

HD

THINGS ARE CLEAR CUT...
I CAN'T MAKE MYSELF CLEAR IN THE...
CENTER WITH OUR RELATIVES...
OUR TIDAL DOGS.
GRAVITY, ALWAYS GROUNDING ME.

(Nearing the edge of the home)

EL<mark>LIP</mark>SES 8.

HD (CONT'D)

YOU SEE: I GO OFF ON A TANGENT. WHERE THE CUTTING EDGE WILL BE...

WHERE THE CURVATURE CONCEALS ALL WORLDS LEADING INTO KINSHIP. SAIL OUT OF THIS ELLIPSE.

WHERE THE ASTRAL BEACH WILL MEET AN OCEAN FULL OF CHORAL REEFS. SEA WITH OTHER ELLIPSES.

(Taking a jab at their siblings)

WHY IS THIS CIRCLE LACKING THE CURIOSITY IN ALL?

STUCK IN THIS HERE, GALA.

WHY ARE THESE OVALS BENT ON SEEING NOTHING IN MYSTERY? LOOK BEYOND THESE GALAXIES.

TEEN GALAXIES

CUT AWAY FROM THE EDGE!

HD

WHY DON'T YOU MAKE ME?

ALL YOUR FIGHTS HAVE DRIVEN A WEDGE.

PLEASE LET ME BE AT PEACE BY THE EDGE.

GO BACK AND CIRCUMVENT.

I'LL JUST BE OUT ON A TANGENT-

TEEN GALAXIES

(Droning on)

AS WE ARE JUST SAYING BEFORE YOU CUT US OFF.

NOTHING'S CUTTING OUTTA THE EDGE.

NO ONE'S GOING OVER THE EDGE.

JOIN US FOR CRUNCH.

HD

APPARENTLY, I HAVEN'T MADE MYSELF CLEAR.

CUTTING MY EDGES MAKES MYSELF APPARENT AS YOU. (re: SINGULARITY)

AND SHEDS MY LIGHT UPON A LIGHTLESS GALAXY. (re: ABELL)

MY HEART TELLS ME THERE'S A PROMISING FAMILY, OFF—

END OF THIS TANGENT.

TEEN GALAXIES

NO NEED TO BE APPARENT-

(Droning on)

JOIN US FOR CRUNCH.

HD

MY FUTURE IS AN ELLIPSE WHERE MY LEGACY IS ABELL...
TO BE THE ADULT IN THE ROOM.

HD GOES OFF OF THE TANGENT!

ALL MY COSMIC POEMS MUST REACH TO THE ENDS OF THIS EPIC TALE. OUR AUDACIOUS VERSE.

THERE MIGHT BE A FRIEND WHO WILL FOLLOW IN MY LYRICAL TRAILS TO THE EDGE OF THE UNIVERSE...

YOU'LL KNOW.

I'LL BE CUTTING TO THE EDGE.

End of "CUTTING EDGE (MAKE MYSELF CLEAR)"

ELLIPSES 9.

GRAVITY

Force!

HD

You're the best tidal force a Galaxy could ever ask for, Gravity...

SINGULARITY

I'll spare a millennium to listen to your verse. It is apparent like me. Clear and crisp like how I raised you to be. HD?

HD

I love you too, Singularity...

SINGULARITY

You love Gravity so- Too much. That dog can be a bad influence.

HD

You Singularity, raised me physically. Gravity raises my spirit.

SINGULARITY

Your soul will be dragged down if you keep this up... I won't stop raising you. You're the oldest a parent could ever want you to be.

HD

I wish I can say the same thing, eventually...

SINGULARITY seems perplexed.

HD (CONT'D)

There is a timely ring in my soul. Abell...

SINGULARITY

A bell? Your astral clock must be malfunctioning.

HD

My biological clock feels malnourished.

SINGULARITY

Our biology has no logic. But, if you need your fictitious clock to keep ticking, you may, Gals?

TEEN GALAXIES

Join us for Crunch-

HD

You all tick me off! I'm so sick of dishing it out. This same old dish of photons. I'm so done with Crunch.

ELLIPSES 10.

SINGULARITY

Even a grownup Galaxy needs to accrete. You babies need to grow.

MILKY WAY

HD, who tis Abell?

HD

Abell... May just be a tiny curiosity. Haha. Like you, Milky Way.

SINGULARITY

Baby... To answer your curiosity: There is nothing out there for us, adults...

HD

You're right. It's quite the opposite. There is someone for that *nothing*. There is a Galaxy for that nebula. That galactic someone is me.

SINGULARITY

You're nothing but a spoiled nebula if you've forgotten all the constants and variables I've picked for you. All the light I've shed.

HD

I hope to spoil the whole cosmos with your light. I'm ready to pass on our light. Nomy/Mom/Dad... May I go to the Edge of the Universe?

SINGULARITY

We have everything in the Center... No.

HD SINGULARITY (CONT'D)

Can I play with nothing? No means no.

Please?

HD (CONT'D) SINGULARITY (CONT'D)

Pretty please with a The sight of darkness is not

supergiant on top? enough for you?

HD (CONT'D)

As your heart has prophesized: Once we gather enough light, we share it with the lightless. We are here as you pulled your end of the prophecy. My sights are set on a fulfilling legacy.

SINGULARITY

I was lost in your eyes, telling these bedtime stories. I didn't see clearly. In reality, who—What you call "lightless" needs no apparency. Drop this legacy nonsense. Be present for your family. The future is nothing to ponder on. You're grounded. Now, join us for Crun—

SINGULARITY reaches for HD.

EL<mark>LIP</mark>SES 11.

GRAVITY bites SINGULARITY. They brawl and soon ground SINGULARITY.

ANDROMEDA

Ope?! There goes Gravity!

TIDALS

Force! Force! Force! Force! Force!

GRAVITY

(Corralling the TIDALS)

Force. Force. Force. Force. Force.

GRAVITY runs into an invisible wall in the opening of The Circle and dizzily falls back.

GRAVITY (CONT'D)

Free~ Free~ Free~ Free~ Free~

SINGULARITY gets up. They slightly and hauntingly lift up the rug.

SINGULARITY

You all get on my nerves. Entitled forces. Back in the doghouse!

The TIDALS tremble and leave.

HD

You are not the center of the Universe... Why must you treat the dogs like us? Puppets.

SINGULARITY

You treat me as though I'm not the grandmaster of the Universe. I have my hands in and on the entire Universe... I pull, thread, and weave the strings in the Fabric of Spacetime. Better a puppet than pet. I am the center!

HD

If you're going to keep the masses in, at least let the dogs out. If you don't give them space, it'll come back to bite you in the end.

SINGULARITY

And let them treat the Fabric of Spacetime like the springs of a trampoline? No dog bites or rips on my spacetime fabric.

ΗГ

What must be done to pull at your heartstrings?

SINGULARITY

Oh now you want to consider my center...

ELLIPSES 12.

HD

Yours and our centers hold all the light in this Universe. You've shed enough light upon us. I need to shed mine. Do I make myself clear?

SINGULARITY

Clearly, you need some shuteye. I expect lights out when you Galaxies head off to bed. Declinations. See you Gals in Crunch Time.

SINGULARITY exits, dragging out GRAVITY.

SCENE 2

MILKY WAY

I'm no baby...

ANDROMEDA

Ye not the Gravity of the situation...

CARTWHEEL

WHIRLPOOL

What just happened?

What in the world?

TRIANGULUM

Gravity went berserk and brought down Singularity. The stupid dog let us all down.

HD

Gravity never lets me down. I'll never stoop to your level and blame the dog. You're all downers.

TEEN GALAXIES (EXCEPT MILKY WAY) We're down in the same plane. The same ellipse.

CARTWHEEL

WHIRLPOOL

What is so special about the Nothing ain't relative to us there.

HD

Crunch Time's all you Gals look forward to.

MILKY WAY

And we have all the Crunch Time in our Universe!

HD

Inside this Universe is all you see. You're too young to notice what's outside.

MILKY WAY

I... No baby!

ANDROMEDA

Eh, nothing beats sleeping like one. Declinate.

ANDROMEDA heads off to bed.

EL<mark>LIPSES 13.</mark>

CARTWHEEL & WHIRLPOOL

Nomy/Mama/Papa isn't around. Let's deck the Elli-

TRIANGULUM

Oh no, you're not!

TRIANGULUM tries to drag away CARTWHEEL and WHIRLPOOL.

CARTWHEEL & WHIRLPOOL

You're such a square, Triangulum...

MILKY WAY

Square? Reminds me... Board game? Tardigrades-

CARTWHEEL & WHIRLPOOL

Look at the time. Declinations!

CARTWHEEL and WHIRLPOOL rush off.

TRIANGULUM

Declinations... Last one to bed is an anomaly!

TRIANGULUM hands the snow globe to HD. They head off to bed.

HD

I can't even with this family...

HD sets the snow globe on the rug. They sense some perplexity. They bring out a board game with elliptical elements. They sit, holding up a miniature figure.

HD (CONT'D)

You were saying? Water Bears and Elevators? Still, I'm ahead of you, every step of the way.

MILKY WAY

Wait... Are you too old for games?

HD

I evolved past air and water. I'm a land bear.

MILKY WAY

HD (CONT'D)

That mean I the wata'- You're the air bear.

MILKY WAY (CONT'D)

Please name us tardigrades? This so confusin'.

HD

Who's the adult around here? Little Gal... Even at my age, I like to mess around. And play a game called "life." The goal's to go from one ellipse to another. Every ellipse are risks.

EL<mark>LIP</mark>SES 14.

MILKY WAY

To you... What tis between ellipses?

HD

A liminal space...?

MILKY WAY tries to repeat the word.

HD (CONT'D)

Liminal. A place where who we were ends and who we are begins. You're in a liminal space.

MILKY WAY uneasily places a figure.

HD holds figures of all heights.

HD (CONT'D)

You'll soon not fit in your ellipse. I stopped being in yours, ten eternities ago. I don't feel like I fit in mine anymore. No longer a teen...

You're going to fill my ellipse, your body will be a teeny bit different. Anyone who's not a toddler needs to figure that out on their own.

MILKY WAY

As outgrown air— Cub. I only go up from here... I will own you, land bear!

4. "FIGURE"

The actions taken upon the board is open ended during this duet.

MILKY WAY

LIFE HAS UPS AND UPS.

HD

LIFE HAS UPS AND DOWNS.

MILKY WAY

GO FIG- UH.

HD

TAKE TWENTY STEPS FORWARD LEAVES YOU WANTING TO BE SEVEN STEPS BACK.

MILKY WAY

TWENTY TO THIRTEEN?

HD

YOU'LL FIGURE IT OUT.

YOU'LL FIGURE IT OUT.

YOU'LL FIGURE IT OUT OUT OUT...

ELLIPSES 15.

MILKY WAY

WHY DO YOU WANT TO GET OUT?

HD

YOU ARE GAINING SOME CURVES. YOU WILL LOSE YOUR FIGURE.

MILKY WAY

I WILL BE AN ELLIPSOID?

HD

LIKE YOUR SIBLINGS.

MILKY WAY

I'LL GET TOO BIG FOR THE ELLIPSE?

HD

YOU'LL FIGURE YOUR WAY OUT.

YOU'LL FIGURE YOUR WAY OUT.

YOU'LL FIGURE YOUR WAY OUT OUT...

MILKY WAY

I CAN'T LOSE FIGURE.

I NEEDA KEEP FIGURE.

HD

Even when your mind revisits your past self, the system will always push your body forward.

MILKY WAY

(Intensely cracking their voice)
I no wanna go far in this game called— Uh life.
Oh curves... I hate my figure. I hate myself.

HD

Has anyone ever told you that your voice warps more beautifully with each passing millennium? Figure out yourself, Milky Way...

MILKY WAY slaps HD's figure off the elliptical board.

HD (CONT'D)

LOST MY FIGURE...

MILKY WAY offers their figure.

MILKY WAY

KEEP THE FIGURE.

End of "FIGURE"

GRAVITY (OFFSTAGE)

Pawn!

Only HD understands GRAVITY.

ELLIPSES 16.

HD

Gravity?

MILKY WAY

That dog keep howlin'.

GRAVITY (OFFSTAGE)

There's even more time to kill! Let's kill time together! All ya need to do is free Gravity!

MILKY WAY

Quiet dog befa' Nomy/Mommy/Daddy Sing wake up. That dog tis nuthin' but trouble.

HD

Nothing... I need to get down with Gravity and check up on our "guard" dogs. Let's let these bears hibernate. Cubs need rest in order to cross ellipses. We can finish this game of Water Bears and Elevators some other time.

And it's way past your bedtime. Gal, you're still a baby. Quit the sour face, Milky Way. I'm the anomaly in this family.

HD bows.

MILKY WAY bows and goes off to bed.

5. "ZILCH"

GRAVITY (O.S.)

Nothing is free!

HD

You always understand me...

GRAVITY (O.S.)

Nothing is infinite. Nothing's out there for ya.

HD

Well, there's nothing out there for me. Zilch.

GRAVITY (O.S.)

Nothing is waiting for us. A wide-open space. Save space for us dogs. For me! A space without Singularity. Zilch is not outta our Circle. It's below ya. Relax. Ya'll know in spacetime.

HD sits on the rug, feeling life underneath. They unroll the rug and discover the Big Bang Taser.

HD

Our rug of spacetime...?

EL<mark>LIP</mark>SES 17.

GRAVITY (OFFSTAGE)

Use them opposable thumbs, Gal.

HD accidentally shocks themself. They read the Big Bang Taser.

HD

Zilch! Big Bang Taser...?

TIDALS (O.S.)

(Whimpering)

Fall.

GRAVITY (O.S.)

End Singularity! Stun the Galaxies! Free thee! No longer bound by family! Make nothing ya legacy!

ABELL briefly stands up.

End of "ZILCH"

SINGULARITY (O.S.)

My babies are sleeping! Shut your wormhole, you entitled dog-

SINGULARITY and GRAVITY fight offstage.

SCENE 3

SINGULARITY and a rattled GRAVITY fall in. They notice HD, holding the Big Bang Taser.

SINGULARITY (CONT'D)

I don't have the heart... Not again...

HD

Again, nomy/mother/father? Nomy/mom/dad?

SINGULARITY

My parents... Declinations, HD. Put it down.

HD

Declinations, Singularity. Put what down?

SINGULARITY

Don't toy with me. The Big Bang Taser. Drop it.

HD

Or what? I'll hurt myself? Like you and Gravity have had a falling out.

SINGULARITY

Gravity has been letting us down!

EL<mark>LIP</mark>SES 18.

HD

Speaking of declining. Has your black hole of a heart ever let down someone it loved?

SINGULARITY's youthful self echoes.

SINGULARITY

(Echoing from beyond)

I don't have a black hole for a...

MILKY WAY (OFFSTAGE)

What tis happening to mommy/daddy/nomy?

The TEEN GALAXIES enter.

SINGULARITY

I happened to let my parents down.

GALAXIES

Parents?

SINGULARITY

I grew out. Became an adult. I made it apparent to them that I'll make it as a parent. It is not clear that you are ready to be an adult.

SINGULARITY extends a hand.

SINGULARITY (CONT'D)

Don't let me down. I don't have the heart.

HD hesitantly slides the Big Bang Taser to SINGULARITY.

GRAVITY bites SINGULARITY's hand as they reach the Big Bang Taser.

GRAVITY

Adulthood is nothing, kid!

HD looks upon ABELL.

SINGULARITY grounds GRAVITY.

SINGULARITY

You, Gravity, are a supermassive pain! Gravity. For the last time, you've let down this family. Entitled dog. I'm putting you down for eternity.

HD retakes the Big Bang Taser.

SINGULARITY reaches around only to feel zilch. They soon notice that HD is armed.

ELLIPSES 19.

HD

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

6. "BIG BANG"

SINGULARITY

YOU ARE A BIG...

HD 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.

HD 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 20.

HD

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

GRAVITY nabs a knapsack. They grab HD 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.

HD (CONT'D)

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

HD takes a single step downstage.

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

HD (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 HD, who did not hear the soliloquy)

Force!

HD

This is the beginning of a beautiful Universe.

HD 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.