



WORKING TIDAL

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A Musical

by

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# 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
Lau'rie Roach Bryan Montemayor Imani Vaughn-Jones Isake Akanke Kate Jacoby	Originated 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"
10-5	Reading (Preview)	Working Title Playwrights	Monday Night Critique Sessions

## SYNOPSIS

An astrophysics epic, *WORKING TIDAL* centers on a family of galaxies trying to reverse the Big Bang, after a member sets it off. This musical follows a teenager and their dog running away from home. SPT0615-JD, a galaxy, and Gravity, their tidal force, journey away from the center of the universe. The story explores Hubble's Law and the Big Crunch Theory. In astrophysics, galaxies follow Hubble's Law: to distance from the center. It is not unlike a human being. We want to get out and explore. The analogy is expressed through these personifications and clothed like astronomers. 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 with their monoculars ("[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 ("[Grouned](#)"). Letting JD out of bed, Triangulum outlines their family values ("[Anomaly is Everything](#)"). Eager for a voyage anyways, JD finds Singularity's BB Taser stashed under the family's rug. JD deems the fabric of spacetime to be just as sturdy ("[Sweep under the Rug](#)"). Later, Singularity assesses each of their child's black-hole hearts ("[Hinge](#)"). With this being the final straw, JD shoots their parent in the face with the BB 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 eternity trying to roll back the edge. The siblings blame one another for kickstarting the universe ("[Apartment](#)"). In their isolation, Milky Way speaks to their Solar System ("[Warp, Waves, and Wrinkles](#)"). Others try to quit and go home ("[Time is Relative](#)"). But they face Singularity's attack dogs, who ensure that no siblings merge ("[Working Tidal](#)"). Triangulum, Andromeda, and Milky Way band together but keep their distance ("[Bundle](#)"). 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 ("[Wrong Space](#)"). The edge is on the cosmic horizon.

In the following act, most siblings have huddled together ("[Bounce Back](#)"). They reach JD and Gravity ("[Accretion](#)"). Triangulum snatches JD's monocular away from them and urges JD to join them. As JD steps away to consider it, Gravity reveals that they have been holding Singularity's eye. JD peeks through it to find the backstory of Singularity, who ran away from their own universe ("[In-Depth](#)"). JD dismisses their siblings and races to the edge. In the meantime, Singularity calls off the dogs ("[Fabricate](#)"). The siblings make their way home ("[Spacetime](#)").

An eternity passes, and JD feels lost more than ever without their monocular. Gravity sites that the scope is within their black-hole heart ("[Scope](#)"). In that spirit, the edge comes to them. With the enduring love from their siblings, JD decides to head back, taking the edge with them ("[Edge](#)"). When they return, JD tries to give back Singularity's eye. They do not forgive JD. After giving Gravity one last hug, JD jumps off the edge ("[Dropout](#)"). In these millennia of grief, the siblings hold each other close ("[Center](#)"). Singularity chooses to take in their eye, restoring their depth perception. Singularity looks beyond. JD is among an audience. To the eye of the beholder, it is a space filled with Galaxies. JD has found their center ("[Hearts are in the Right Place](#)").

Gravity returns with a wolfpack in JD's honor. They surround the family. Singularity and their Galaxies sit at their table in their center, as the tidal forces consume them ("[Big Crunch](#)"). In the darkness, a bang is seen and heard again ("[Big Bounce](#)").

Dispersal leads to roots.



# CHARACTER BREAKDOWN

◦ Androgyny and Galaxy ◦

Character	Vocal Tone & Range	Identity
<u>SPT0615-JD</u> A distant galactic sibling.	Any	Teenager
<u>SINGULARITY</u> The relativistically impossible guardian.	Any	Adult
<u>GRAVITY</u> A tidal dog. JD's companion.	Any	Any
<u>TRIANGULUM</u> A strict galactic sibling.	Any	Teenager
<u>ANDROMEDA</u> A dreamy galactic sibling.	Any	Teenager
<u>MILKY WAY</u> An aimless galactic sibling.	Any	Teenager
<u>WHIRLPOOL</u> An anaerobic galactic sibling.	Any	Teenager
<u>CARTWHEEL</u> An aerobic galactic sibling.	Any	Teenager
<b>Ensembles</b>		
TIDALS	SOLAR SYSTEM	MULTIVERSITIES



## **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 Tidals. Along JD's and Gravity's journey to the edge of the universe, JD eventually understands the language of tidal forces.

## **SOLAR SYSTEM**

Solar System are astronomical bodies that speak to Milky Way when Milky Way wanders the universe alone. They are the voices inside Milky's Way head. They do not make an appearance. They speak for several billion years (several-minutes staging time) before the Sun becomes a red giant (swelling) towards the end of the first act.

## **MULTIVERSITIES**

Multiversities are Singularity's parental figures from their native universe. In "In-Depth," they 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 Multiversity 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	Character (s)
1.	11	<a href="#">Bounce</a>	GALAXIEs
2.	13	Crunch	SINGULARITY GALAXIEs but JD tidals
3.	17	Cutting Edge	JD GRAVITY GALAXIEs
4.		Grounded	SINGULARITY GALAXIEs
5.		Anomaly is Everything	TRIANGULUM JD
6.		Sweep Under the Rug	JD
7.		Hinge	SINGULARITY GALAXIEs
8.		Big Bang	COMPANY
9.		Depth	SINGULARITY tidals
10.		Apartment	GALAXIEs but JD
11.		Warp, Waves, and Wrinkles	MILKY WAY solar system
12.		Time is Relative	WHIRLPOOL CARTWHEEL
13.		Working Tidal	SINGULARITY WHIRLPOOL CARTWHEEL tidals
14.		Bundle	TRIANGULUM ANDROMEDA MILKY WAY
15.		Far-Fetched	GRAVITY JD
16.		Fabric	TRIANGULUM ANDROMEDA MILKY WAY tidals solar system
17.		Wrong Space	SINGULARITY
18.		Bounce Back	GALAXIEs but JD tidals
19.		Accretion	GALAXIEs
20.		In-Depth	SINGULARITY multiversities tidals
21.		Fabricate	SINGULARITY
22.		Scope	JD GRAVITY
23.		Edge	JD GRAVITY
24.		Spacetime	SINGULARITY GALAXIEs
25.		Dropout	JD
26.		Center	GALAXIEs but JD
27.		Hearts Are in the Right Place	JD
28.		Big Crunch	SINGULARITY GALAXIEs
29.		Big Bounce	COMPANY



# SCENES & SET DESIGNS

Act	Page	Location	SET   props
Ii	11	The Center of the Universe	DOME HOME VANTABLACK RUG TABLE SEATS red whoopie cushion monoculars dishes snow globe
Iii	—	The Fabric of Spacetime	
Iiii	—	The Center of the Universe	telescope
IIi	—	The Fabric of Spacetime	
IIii	—	The Center of the Universe	





## 1. BOUNCE

*[The Center of the Universe]*

*[An observatory-like house is stationed in the center towards upstage. There is a table with seats and a vantablack rug within the dome home.]*

*[The light circularly dwells within the dome home. The stage outside remains dark. No one and nothing dwell outside the confines of the dome home.]*

*(JD arrives, carrying two monoculares. They position themselves at the edge of the home. They look out through both monoculares.)*

*(TRIANGULUM wanders out, looking for their monocular. They head to JD. They notice that JD is holding two monoculares. They snatch a monocular from JD. They look out through a monocular.)*

**TRIANGULUM**

NOTHING.

*(WHIRLPOOL twirls out. They look out through a monocular.)*

**WHIRLPOOL**

NOTHING!

*(CARTWHEEL cartwheels out. They look out through a monocular.)*

**CARTWHEEL**

NOTHING!

*(MILKY WAY appears disheveled. They stroll in.)*

*(ANDROMEDA accompanies MILKY WAY.)*

*(ANDROMEDA and MILKY WAY look through their monoculars.)*

**ANDROMEDA**

**MILKY WAY**

NOTHING.

NOTHING...

*(GALAXIES, but JD, cluster together.)*

**GALAXIES but JD**

LET'S BOUNCE!

*(GALAXIES, but JD, choreographically move alongside the walls of the dome home. They are distinct in their dance. They stop and pose or slow down whenever the musical number plays the G chord and G suspended chord. They are also distinct in their poses and suspensions. Through choreographic exposition, they detail themselves perfectly. Now, all they need are their names.)*

*(SINGULARITY remains absent.)*

**SINGULARITY**

MILKY WAY!

*(MILKY WAY lugs their way to a seat at the table.)*

## SINGULARITY (cont.)

ANDROMEDA!

*(ANDROMEDA heads to a seat at the table.)*

TRIANGULUM!

*(TRIANGULUM bounces off the walls of the home before landing at a seat at the table.)*

WHIRLPOOL!

*(WHIRLPOOL twirls into a seat at the table.)*

CARTWHEEL!

*(CARTWHEEL cartwheels into a seat at the table.)*

JD!

*(JD remains at the edge of the home, staring through their monocular.)*

<h2><u>2. CRUNCH</u></h2>
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*(SINGULARITY arrives, with empty dishes. They set the dishes on the table.)*

*(TIDALS prowl in. They surround the table.)*

**SINGULARITY**

It is that time.

*(Placing a dish on the ground.)*

*(TIDALS feast on the dish on the ground.)*

*(GALAXIES at the table sit themselves.)*

*(TRIANGULUM sits on a whoopie cushion.)*

Looks like someone enjoyed a little too much gas giants.

*(WHIRLPOOL and CARTWHEEL hold in their laughter.)*

**WHIRLPOOL****CARTWHEEL**

What you got cooking up?

What are we having...

**SINGULARITY**

I ask first... Has anyone of you got anything stellar cooked up?

*(Displaying one of the GALAXY's monoculars.)*

**TRIANGULUM**

The usual. For the past googolplex days, nothing. But the red giants are new.

*(Tossing the whoopie cushion at WHIRLPOOL.)*

**SINGULARITY**

Well, I cooked you all something special. Yellow star systems.

*(Handing out dishes to each GALAXY at the table.)*

### **SINGULARITY**

A variety of nutrition from the crusts of rocky planets.  
Dismantle the mantle. But leave the core. I'd love to planet  
these.

*(MILKY WAY dives into their dish.)*

### **TRIANGULUM**

Again, Milky Way?

### **ANDROMEDA**

It's mostly photons, Triangulum.

### **CARTWHEEL**

It takes eight millennia to burn that, Andromeda.

### **WHIRLPOOL**

A simple nap lasts just as long, Cartwheel.

*(SINGULARITY addresses TRIANGULUM.)*

### **SINGULARITY**

You want to go through accretion and be a grand design spiral  
galaxy, don't you?

### **CARTWHEEL**

You all are morbidly spiral galaxies.

### **ANDROMEDA**

Does it ring any bell, ring galaxy?

*(MILKY WAY sets down their dish.)*

### **MILKY WAY**

All bark and no bite, just like our Tiduals here. Your weight on us is sparse. I will not kau tau to you.

### **CARTWHEEL**

Ring galaxies ring true. And truth is sparse...

*(Growing self-aware of their slimness.)*

### **SINGULARITY**

Let us step in our truths.

*(Having a hand on their chest, they position that hand as though it is holding a heart. Their other hand sits flatly under this hand.)*

*(GALAXIEs, but JD, emulate SINGULARITY.)*

HOLD THAT HOLE IN YOUR HEART.  
GIVE INTO INTERNAL DARKNESS.  
HOLD OUR LIGHT FOR ALL TIME.  
FOR IT'S CRUNCH TIME, GALAXIES.  
IN BLACK HOLES, DWELL WISDOM.  
FED BY THE SPRINKLES OF STARDUST.  
HOLD THEIR DREAMS IN YOUR PALM.  
IT IS CRUNCH TIME, MY BABIES.

*(SINGULARITY and GALAXIEs, but JD, chorally pray.)*

### **SINGULARITY**

### **GALAXIEs but JD**

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



### **GALAXIEs but JD**

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

### **MILKY WAY**

IT IS CRUNCH TIME, SINGULARITY.

### **ANDROMEDA**

IT IS CRUNCH TIME, SINGULARITY.

### **TRIANGULUM**

IT IS CRUNCH TIME, SINGULARITY.

### **WHIRLPOOL**

IT IS CRUNCH TIME, SINGULARITY.

### **CARTWHEEL**

IT IS CRUNCH TIME, SINGULARITY.

*(SINGULARITY waits.)*

### **SINGULARITY**

IT IS CRUNCH TIME, JD?  
SPT0615-JD?



### 3. CUTTING EDGE

*(GRAVITY splits from TIDALS. They stroll to JD, to be their canine companion.)*

**JD**

NOT THE TIME, GRAVITY.  
CAN'T YOU SEE  
I'M BUSY  
SEEING  
AN ENDLESS SEA  
WHERE WE NEED TO SINK.

*(GRAVITY adamantly places their paw on JD's monocular.)*

WHERE'S THE TIME, GRAVITY?

*(JD puts down the monocular.)*

**JD (cont.)**

WELL, TO CUT.  
IN LIGHT OF OUR HOME FIT ONLY FOR SINGULARITY.  
WHAT ELSE TO DO IN THIS DOME?

*[The composer-lyricist is still figuring out how to begin this "I Want" song. In "Cutting Edge," JD answers:*

- What influenced this galactic teenager?*
- How do they have different influences than their siblings, who all were raised under the same household for an eternal time? Why do the other Galaxies not want what JD wants?*
- Is JD the oldest/wisest of all the Galaxies?]*

*[This is the ending verses of the song.]*

**JD**

THIS PLACE IS CONFINED.  
THIS PLACE IS BIZARRE.  
THIS SPACE DOES NOT HEAR THE END OF MY VERSE.  
OUTER SPACE HAS A CALLING SIGN.  
WHAT SPEAKS TO MY HEART...  
IT SAYS TO REACH THE EDGE OF THE UNIVERSE!

*(GALAXIEs at the table ironically hear JD.)*

**GALAXIEs but JD**

THE EDGE OF THE UNIVERSE?! (D5→B4→A4→F#4→G4→F#4→G4)

THE CUTTING EDGE? (B4→A4→F#4→G4)  
REALLY? (F#4→G4)

**JD**

CUTTING THE LINE BETWEEN  
DERIVATION AND INTEGRATION!

**GALAXIEs but JD**

JUST SEND US OFF A TANGENT WHY DON'T YA?

**JD**

CUTTING OFF MISCOMMUNICATION!

**GALAXIEs but JD**

YOU ARE LOSING US?!

**JD**

CUTTING OUR FINGERS ON...!

**GALAXIEs but JD**

WE GET IT NOW. YOU WANT THIS BADLY!

**JD**

THE FABRIC OF SPACETIME-IME-IME!

**GALAXIEs but JD**

THAT'S US. ALL OF US.

**JD**

LET'S BE THE CUTTING EDGE.

**GALAXIEs but JD**

CUTTING EDGE? CUTTING EDGE?

**JD**

TO EDGE OUT WHAT IS  
DERIVATION AND INTEGRATION!

**GALAXIEs but JD**

WE'LL GO ABOUT IT ON A COTANGENT.

**JD**

TO EDGE OUT ALL COMMUNICATIONS!

**GALAXIEs but JD**

THAT MAKES NO SENSE!

**JD**

TO EDGE OUT THESE FINGERS WITH...!

**GALAXIEs but JD**

GO OFF. YOU WANT THIS BADLY!

**JD**

THE FABRIC OF SPACETIME!  
LET'S BE THE CUTTING EDGE.

THE EDGE OF THE UNIVERSE... (D5→B4→A4→F#4→G4→F#4F#4→→D4)

**GRAVITY**

*(Barking.)*

Force!

*(JD hugs GRAVITY.)*

**JD**

I, however, do love my Gravity.

*(SINGULARITY accompanies JD and GRAVITY.)*

And Singularity... Mom/Dad?



#### 4. GROUNDED

##### SINGULARITY

DON'T FALL FOR GRAVITY.

ARE YOU EVER GOING TO KEEP JD GROUNDED, GRAVITY?

WELL, IT IS MY ROLE AS SINGULARITY, APPARENTLY.

NOTHING...





*(TRIANGULUM brings out JD.)*

**TRIANGULUM**

Do you have a millennium?

**JD**

I don't have the patience, anymore...

**TRIANGULUM**

We've been here for what? An eternity?

**JD**

Seems like it. Well, really it.

**TRIANGULUM**

And every morn, you are here.

**JD**

And every dawn, I am there.

*(Pointing to their offstage bedroom.)*

**TRIANGULUM**

Not this dawn. I'm going to be chill, as dark matter. As dark matter, I want you to never reach the edge of the universe.

*(JD silently mocks TRIANGULUM.)*

I'm just like you. Far out. But I am seen. While you, you need this, to be seen.

*(Pulling out a monocular.)*

*(JD prepares to take the monocular from  
TRIANGULUM.)*

*(TRIANGULUM pockets the monocular.)*

**JD**

Triangulum, what do you need?

**TRIANGULUM**

I need you to need a family...

*(JD tries to comprehend.)*

In us.

<b>5. ANOMALY IS EVERYTHING</b>
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**TRIANGULUM**

FAMILY IS...  
FAMILY IS...  
FAMILY IS...  
FAMILY ISN'T...  
FAMILY IS NOT...  
ANOMALY.

*(JD grows saddened.)*

*(TRIANGULUM triangulates and changes course.)*

FAMILY IS EVERYTHING YOU KNOW.  
FAMILY IS EVERYTHING, YOU KNOW?  
FAMILY IS EVERYTHING. YOU KNOW  
NOT WHAT IS EVERYTHING.

**TRIANGULUM** (cont.)

NO SUCH THING  
THAT IS JUST FAMILIARITY.

*[The spotlight lands on JD.]*

ANOMALY IS EVERYTHING,  
FROM THE WAY YOU *MOVED* TO THE WAY YOU UNDERSTOOD.  
ANOMALY IS EVERYTHING,  
FROM THE DOME HOME YOU WANT TO LEAVE AND YET LIVED.

*(Bringing out a snow globe shaped like the  
dome home. They smirk at JD.)*

REALLY, FAMILY IS EVERYTHING TO US.  
FAMILY IS EVERYTHING.

**JD**

WE KNOW.

**TRIANGULUM**

FAMILY IS EVERYTHING. WE KNOW  
THAT YOU FEEL LIKE NOTHING.  
WELL, THE THING  
IS THAT WE'RE ALL HOMES TO FAMILIES.

*(Shaking the snow globe. They set down the  
snow globe on the table.)*

*[A galaxy projects into their dome home.]*

*(TRIANGULUM brings out a ball.)*

ANOMALY IS EVERY CELL,  
FROM THE PLANETS TO THE COMETS IN STAR SYSTEMS.

*(Stowing away the ball. They direct to the  
projected galaxy.)*

**TRIANGULUM** (cont.)

ANOMALY IS EVERY VEIN,  
WITH ITS INTERGALACTIC SUPERHIGHWAY SYSTEMS.  
ANOMALY IS OUR HEARTS.  
BLACK HOLES ROOTED IN US, WHILE YOURS JUST STEM?

*[The projected galaxy fades away.]*

*(Returning to the premise. They slowly and gloomily turn away from JD.)*

AGAIN, ANOMALY IS EVERYTHING,  
FROM YOUR VIEWS THAT SHIFT TO YOUR POINTS WITH NO  
ROUNDTrips.  
ANOMALY IS EVERYTHING,  
FROM THIS CENTER YOU NEED TO FEEL, YET BELIEVED.

*(JD somberly sits at the table. They touch the snow globe.)*

ANOMALY IS EVERYTHING,  
INCLUDING US BUT ESPECIALLY YOU YOU YOU.

*(Turning to JD.)*

JD?

*(Encouragingly joining JD at the table. They sit on a whoopie cushion.)*

*(WHIRLPOOL and CARTWHEEL distantly laugh.)*

*(TRIANGULUM appears flustered. They shift to delight. They pull out the whoopie cushion.)*

ANOMALIES ARE GAS GIANTS!

*(TRIANGULUM stows away the whoopie cushion.  
They grab the snow globe. They take JD to  
the vantablack rug.)*

**TRIANGULUM** (cont.)

ANOMALY IS SPACETIME!

*(Concernedly observing the outside of the  
dome home.)*

ANOMALY IS WHAT'S LEFT...

*(Earnestly holding JD.)*

NOTHING IS ANOMALY LIKE FAMILY.

*(Handing the snow globe to JD. They head off  
to bed with the monocular.)*

*[End of "Anomaly is Everything."]*

## 6. SWEEP UNDER THE RUG

*(JD stares out.)*

**JD**

Nothing? Nothing? Nothing? Nothing? Nothing...?

*(Bouncing backwards. They land on the vantablack rug.)*

Nothing's under my feet. But out there. There's no feet above nothing.

CAN'T SWEEP THAT FACT UNDER THE RUG.  
THE FABRIC OF SPACETIME, OF COURSE.  
ITS THREAD ARE ROUGH.  
THE STRINGS THAT BIND IT, CUT.  
CUTTING EDGE...  
CAN'T SWEEP THAT FEELING UNDER THE RUG!

*(Kicking up the rug.)*

*[A BB Taser lies under the rug.]*

*(JD peculiarly picks up the BB Taser.)*

*(TIDALs remain absent.)*

**TIDAL**

Fall...

**JD**

Under the fabric of spacetime is... A BB Taser? What kind of energy is this?

**SINGULARITY**

Shocking...

*(Arriving.)*

*(JD stows away the BB Taser in their clothes.)*

*(SINGULARITY is sarcastic.)*

*To see you first awake.*

JD. I want to see something out there as much as you.





## 7. HINGE

SCENE i \*most likely beginning of ACT II\*

Exercise #1



Exercise #5

Writing in the book: "The long experiment concludes with you."

Dark Shadow: "You are the outlier."

*[Center of the Universe]*

*(SINGULARITY stands in the space, guarding  
ANDROMEDA, MILKY WAY, TRIANGULUM, JD,  
WHIRLPOOL, and MICE.)*

**SINGULARITY**

THE UNIVERSAL MAP HINGES ON YOU.  
AND YOU.  
AND YOU.  
AND YOU.  
AND YOU.  
AND YOU.  
I'LL NOT LOSE YOU.  
AT THE CENTER OF YOU ALL  
IS AN OPEN DOOR.  
THAT'S CALLED A BLACK HOLE.  
AND YOURS...

*(Focusing on JD.)*

YOURS IS SUPERMASSIVE.

*(JD takes a BB taser. They shoot SINGULARITY in the face. They run away.) \*have no idea where BB taser will be picked up from ~ possible personification between Hubble's Law and Law Enforcement\* \*BB taser is inspired by the abbreviation of the Big Bang Theory\**

*(SINGULARITY holds their face. They blindly push away the galactic siblings.)*

*ANDROMEDA, MILKY WAY, TRIANGULUM, WHIRLPOOL, and MICE disappear.)*

YOUR HEART!  
MY HEART IS INFINITE.  
HOWEVER, HINGES ON THE BLACK HOLE.  
A NOW CLOSED DOOR.

*(Slipping on an eye patch. They return to they looked during the first act.)*



## 8. BIG BANG

*(SINGULARITY faces JD.)*

### SINGULARITY

YOU ARE A...  
BIG...

*(JD draws out the BB Taser. They shoot SINGULARITY in the face. They immediately drop the BB Taser. They regret this action.)*

MISTAKE!

*(Ceaselessly gets electrocuted. They increasingly inaudibly jerk in place.)*

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

### TIDALs

*(Repeating.)*

BIG BIG BIG BIG BIG. BANG!

*(SINGULARITY abruptly slams their face onto the table.)*

*(TIDALs howl.)*

FALL!

*[The snow globe explodes.]*

*[The light suddenly fills the stage.]*

*[It is the beginning of the universe as we know it.]*

*(JD expresses grief. They look out and express wonder.)*

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

*(GALAXIES look upon SINGULARITY.)*

*(GRAVITY grabs JD and runs out.)*

*(GALAXIES, but JD, hesitantly step away from SINGULARITY to watch the universe unravel, and JD and GRAVITY departing.)*

*(JD and GRAVITY run in place.)*

*(JD stops in their tracks.)*

Where is it?

*(GRAVITY rushes to JD's side.)*

**GRAVITY**

Force!

**JD**

It's further away?

*(Taking a step.)*

*[The light expands further out.]*

It's getting further away. The fabric of spacetime is a rug. And we're rolling it out.

*(JD and GRAVITY dash off.)*

*(TRIANGULUM solely looks out as JD and GRAVITY run away from home.)*

**TRIANGULUM**

MUST YOU BE GOING  
OUT WITH THE  
BIG BANG?

*(Tearing up.)*

THIS IS SUCH A  
BIG MISTAKE YOU ARE!

BIT THE HAND THAT FEEDS.  
HEART THAT LOVES.

## 9. DEPTH

*(TRIANGULUM directs GALAXIES to place SINGULARITY on the table. They ensure that SINGULARITY's missing eye is not visible.)*

*(SINGULARITY swiftly grabs the neck of CARTWHEEL with their hand that corresponds to their missing eye.)*

*(SINGULARITY sits upright. Their missing eye remains unseen.)*

**SINGULARITY**

I'VE SEEN DEPTH.

I MISS DEPTH.

**SINGULARITY**

The universe is spread out too thin!

There is no resource left in the center of the universe.

You need to fend for yourself and bring the edge back! Don't come back til you do!

Would you like to be buried six parsecs under?

**FILLER SYNOPSIS**





Heartbroken, Singularity kicks out their children and has them spend eternity trying to roll back the edge.

## FILLER SYNOPSIS

The siblings blame one another for kickstarting the universe.

## 11. SHINGLE

*(MILKY WAY drifts alone.)*

**MILKY WAY**

So long.

## FILLER SYNOPSIS

Milky Way selectively becomes mute.

## FILLER SYNOPSIS

Others try to quit and go home.

## 13. WORKING TIDAL

### SINGULARITY

I was not born yester-millennium.

I didn't calmly domesticate tidal forces. They are at bay due to my electromagnetic forces, that is the BB Taser.

Now go along and behave yourselves. Play outside. Don't come back until you have the edge of the universe!

### FILLER SYNOPSIS

But they face Singularity's attack dogs, who ensure that no siblings merge.



## 14. HUDDLE

**15. FAR-FETCHED**

*[The Fabric of Spacetime]*

*(JD and GRAVITY wander.)*

**JD**

A trillion years...

*(Grabbing a ball.)*

Fetch, Gravity.

*(Tossing the ball.)*

Fetch the star!

**GRAVITY**

Force!

*(Retrieving the ball.)*

*(JD pets GRAVITY.)*

**JD**

Who's a good tidal force? You are. You are. You shaved a couple hundred thousand years from that retrieval.

*(Tossing the ball.)*

**GRAVITY**

Refresh?

**JD**

*(Woofing.)*

...Force?

**GRAVITY**

We have this one flare like these, every million years then we continue threading along the fabric of spacetime. Don't stall on this now. The edge of the universe is just beyond the horizon.

**JD**

We keep rolling away the horizon.

**GRAVITY**

This fabric of spacetime is not infinite. Nothing is infinite.

**JD**

You would know. You tidal forces are fifteen times my age...? As a galaxy, I'm getting too old for this.

**GRAVITY**

You're blowing it out of proportion.

**JD**

2.327 terameters per year per megaparsec... The universe is expanding. The light can't even see the end of the tunnel.

**GRAVITY**

I don't know how to convert that. I'm a tidal dog.

**JD**

But on this voyage, you learnt to speak galactic being... Or I learnt how to speak tidal dog... Whether or not, I have grown in the worst ways possible.

*(GRAVITY retrieves the ball.)*





**GRAVITY**

You are part of my accretion, and I thank you. Grow up but don't grow up.

**JD**

...Give up and give up?

**GRAVITY**

Your tidal dog whispering is a bit low in escape velocity... So, your voice will carry far...

*(JD exhaustedly looks out.)*

**JD**

Far, far away...

**GRAVITY**

LONG TIME AGO  
YOU WERE REAL CLOSE  
TO THE CENTER  
WHERE YOUR SIBLINGS,  
WHERE YOUR BROTHERS,  
WHERE YOUR SISTERS,  
WHERE YOUR PARENT...

**JD**

SINGULARITY.

**GRAVITY**

APPARENTLY  
WILL NOT FORGET.  
WILL NOT FORGIVE.  
CAN I FORETELL?

**GRAVITY** (cont.)

CAN'T YOU FORESEE?  
THIS IS FAR-FETCHED.

*(Snatching the ball. They toss it in the  
direction of the center of the universe.)*

GO FETCH THE STAR...

*(JD heads to the ball. They cramp up.)*

FORGOT TO STRETCH?

**JD**

ALL'S A STRETCH!

**GRAVITY**

THE EDGE OF THE UNIVERSE IS FAR.  
YET, IT IS SOMETHING YOU GALAXIES NEED TO FETCH.  
POINT OF RETURN IS FAR-FETCHED.

*(Heading to JD's side. They point to the  
ball.)*

WE'RE ON THE SAME WAVELENGTH.  
YOU'RE SPEAKING TIDAL FORCE NOW.  
THAT ONCE SEEMED AS THOUGH FAR-FETCHED.

**JD**

IT GIVES ME PAUSE.

**GRAVITY**

IMPLAUSIBLE.  
DOES IT GIVE YOU PAUSE WITH ALL OF YOUR ACCRETE  
THINKING?

**GRAVITY** (cont.)

DOES IT GIVE YOU PAUSE THAT THE STRINGS WE WALK ON ARE  
STRUMMED?

DOES IT GIVE YOU PAUSE WHENEVER YOU BE SHOOTING STARS?

*(Snatching another ball. They toss it in the  
direction of the edge of the universe.)*

IMPLAUSIBLE.

DOES IT GIVE YOU PAUSE THAT YOU ARE FULL OF LIVING  
THINGS?

DOES IT GIVE YOU PAUSE ALL OF YOUR CELLS ARE STAR  
SYSTEMS?

DOES IT GIVE YOU PAUSE, YOU HAVE A BLACK HOLE FOR A  
HEART?

**JD**

IT'S PLAUSIBLE!

*(Dropping numerous balls. They tearfully  
hold their heart.)*

**GRAVITY**

You are part of my accretion, and I thank your...

*(Nearing JD.)*

SUPERMASSIVE BLACK HOLE!

*(Jumping on and embracing JD like a dog.)*

*(TIDALs loom in the distance.)*

**TIDALs**

SUPERMASSIVE HEART!

*[The atmosphere fills with flaring black  
holes.]*

**GRAVITY**

SPT0615-JD, YOU ARE NEAR AND WELL-KEPT TO ME!

**TIDALs**

NEAR AND WELL-KEPT!

**GRAVITY**

THE EDGE OF THE UNIVERSE IS FAR.

**TIDALs**

FAR!

**GRAVITY**

YET, IT IS SOMETHING YOU GALAXIES NEED TO FETCH.

**TIDALs**

FETCH!

**GRAVITY**

POINT OF RETURN IS...

**JD**

FAR-FETCHED!

*(JD and GRAVITY reach out to each black  
hole.)*

**JD**

**GRAVITY**

APPARENTLY,  
WE'LL NOT FORGET.

**JD** (cont.)

**GRAVITY** (cont.)

WE'LL NOT FORGIVE.  
CAN WE FORETELL?  
CAN'T WE FORESEE?  
WE ARE FAR-FETCHED.

*(TIDALS vanish.)*

**JD**

These supermassive black holes came out of a vacuum...?

*(Observing closer. They recognize one of  
their siblings.)*

It's Milky Way. The other Galaxies will be near. We got to  
hubble!

*[The flaring black holes fade away.]*

*(JD and GRAVITY pick up the balls.)*

*(MILKY WAY stumbles in. They fall flat on  
their face.)*

*(JD and GRAVITY dash off.)*

*(TRIANGULUM and ANDROMEDA stroll in. They  
keep their distance.)*

## 16. FABRIC

*[Fabric of Spacetime]*

*(ANDROMEDA is stationary. They worriedly  
look upon MILKY WAY.)*

*(TRIANGULUM is stationary.)*

### **TRIANGULUM**

Your heart's in the wrong space.

*(ANDROMEDA looks through the monocular in  
the direction of the center of the universe.)*

*You're facing the wrong way.*

*(ANDROMEDA ignores.)*

Do you see the edge...?

*(ANDROMEDA breathes in.)*

Of the universe?

*(ANDROMEDA nods.)*

Your eye's in the wrong place?

*(ANDROMEDA puts their hand over their  
unused eye.)*

*(TRIANGULUM nervously concentrates to where ANDROMEDA observes.)*

Right...

**ANDROMEDA**

Mom... / Dad...

*(Tenderly putting down the monocular.)*

*(TRIANGULUM and ANDROMEDA almost dash off.)*

*(ANDROMEDA stops and watches over MILKY WAY.)*

**TRIANGULUM**

Singularity's Tiduals will hunt us down if we don't get a move on!

**ANDROMEDA**

The Solar System is cancer to Milky Way's head!

**TRIANGULUM**

And the tidal forces will cancel us all.

*(ANDROMEDA goes to the aid of MILKY WAY.)*

**TRIANGULUM**

A crime against Hubble!

*(ANDROMEDA helps MILKY WAY up. They link arms with MILKY WAY.)*

Stay six parsecs away from me..

*(TRIANGULUM tears up.)*

*[The fabric of spacetime rips around  
ANDROMEDA, MILKY WAY, and eventually,  
TRIANGULUM.]*

*(TIDALS surround ANDROMEDA and MILKY WAY.  
They pounce.)*

*(ANDROMEDA holds MILKY WAY close.)*

*(Lights erupt from the tumor on MILKY WAY's  
head.)*

*(TIDALS get blinded and scatter away.)*

*(TRIANGULUM nears ANDROMEDA and MILKY WAY.)*

*(ANDROMEDA holds up five fingers.)*

*(TRIANGULUM stops in their tracks.)*

*(ANDROMEDA holds up an index finger from  
their unused hand. They motion for  
TRIANGULUM to join in with MILKY WAY.)*

*(TRIANGULUM huddles with ANDROMEDA and  
MILKY WAY.)*



*[Blackout.]*



*(GRAVITY hands SINGULARITY's eye to JD.)*

**JD**

Singularity's eye...?!

*(GRAVITY whimpers.)*

*(JD's curiosity overrides their disappointment. They peek through Singularity's eye.)*

*[The light shifts away from JD, GRAVITY, and GALAXIES to in front of the stage.]*

<b>20. IN-DEPTH</b>
---------------------

*(SINGULARITY has their eyes intact. They appear youthful and vibrant like a Galaxy. They hold a vantablack fabric, shielding the BB Taser. In front of the stage, they run alongside it. They find a spot to collapse against.)*

*(MULTIVERSITIES never physically appear. They may be casted as shadows or projections of silhouettes searching on stage.)*

**MULTIVERSITY A**

Our precious universe, where are you?!

**MULTIVERSITY B**

Singularity!

**MULTIVERSITY F**

I told you not to tell them!

**SINGULARITY**

I DON'T HAVE A... BLACK HOLE FOR A...  
I DON'T HAVE A... BLACK HOLE FOR A...  
I DON'T HAVE THE HEART...

**MULTIVERSITY A**

That they have a black hole for a heart? They have to know, some millennium.

**MULTIVERSITY E**

We won't get another millennium with them. You took the light out of our little cluster of stars!

**MULTIVERSITY Z**

You know that the heart is where the lights are trapped inside...

*(SINGULARITY tries to reach for the stage.)*

**MULTIVERSITY H**

Singularity!

**SINGULARITY**

I DON'T HAVE THE... ENERGY TO...  
I DON'T HAVE A REACH...

**MULTIVERSITY ©**

We looked under every fabric of spacetime...

*(Realizing.)*

**MULTIVERSITY I**

Singularity fell off the edge of the universe!

*(Weeping.)*

**MULTIVERSITY K**

Our Galaxy!

**MULTIVERSITY A**

They won't hold up!

**MULTIVERSITY M**

And so, will our laws. We know that they can't break our universe's.

**MULTIVERSITY N**

The laws of physics are different in other universes! They don't know if they'll break the other's!

**MULTIVERSITY E**

Either way, they'll break...

*(SINGULARITY breaks down.)*

**MULTIVERSITY O**

They'll get eaten alive by unknown forces...

**MULTIVERSITY II**

Just a crunch...

*(On stage, TIDALs approach SINGULARITY.)*

**SINGULARITY**

I'm dead!

**MULTIVERSITY P**

Where did we put the electricity? The Big Bang Taser?!

*(SINGULARITY pulls out the BB Taser.)*

**SINGULARITY**

What kind of force are?

**TIDAL(s)**

Force!

**SINGULARITY**

Like to echo huh?

**TIDALs**

Force force force...!

**SINGULARITY**

Is that all you can bark?

**TIDALs**

Fall!

### **MULTIVERSITY $\Sigma$**

Singularity may take our force and energy along with them, for their safety. But they may have a hard time making use of our current... Our language...

### **SINGULARITY**

What are you howling about?

*(Turning on the BB Taser. They point the BB Taser towards TIDALs.)*

### **TIDALs**

Big big big big big. Bang!

*(Repeating.)*

*(SINGULARITY stows away the BB Taser inside the fabric. They accept their fate.)*

*(TIDALs grab ahold of SINGULARITY.)*

*[The light shifts to the stage, but not to JD, GRAVITY, and GALAXIEs.]*

*(TIDALs lift SINGULARITY onto the stage.)*

*[The dome*

*(They carry SINGULARITY into the dome home. They set down SINGULARITY. They grow tame.)*



## **SINGULARITY**

In-debt...

*(Timidly interacting with TIDALs.)*

## **TIDALs**

Fall!



**JD**

I'M OVER... THE EDGE OF THE UNIVERSE.

*(Leaping off the stage.)*

**27. HEARTS ARE IN THE RIGHT PLACE**

*(SINGULARITY picks up their eye. They discreetly place their eye into their eye patch. They rip off their eye patch. They see through both eyes, once again. They cautiously head to the edge of the stage. They look out.)*

*[The spotlight lands on JD.]*

*(The performer playing JD is amongst their actual friends and family. Bonus points: The performer playing JD is embracing or holding their child{ren}/cluster of stars.)*

*(Tears run down SINGULARITY's resettled eye.)*

*[The spotlight shifts to SINGULARITY.]*

*(MULTIVERSITIES remain absent.)*

**MULTIVERSITY A**

Our precious universe, you found yourself!

**MULTIVERSITY B**

Clusters of stars!

*[The spotlight shifts to the remaining GALAXIES.]*



## MULTIVERSITY I

I told you!

## MULTIVERSITY Δ

Your hearts are in the right place.

*(SINGULARITY could not be more sentimental. They accept JD's newfound family, center, and universe. They look back at their five remaining GALAXIES.)*

*[End of "Hearts Are in the Right Place."]*

*(GRAVITY suddenly marches out of the shadows, with a tidal wolf pack.)*

*(TIDALS follow GRAVITY's lead.)*

## GRAVITY

As JD has... You're going down! You all are!

## TIDALS

*(Savagely.)*

Force! Force! Force!

*(SINGULARITY runs into the dome home. They kick up the vantablack rug. They look down to find nothing.)*

*(GRAVITY reveals the BB Taser.)*

*(TRIANGULUM stands between GRAVITY and their remaining GALACTIC SIBLINGS.)*

*(GRAVITY knocks down and tases TRIANGULUM.)*

*(TRIANGULUM covers their eyes while tossing and turning in pain.)*

*(GRAVITY regrets this action. They toss away the BB Taser.)*

*(SINGULARITY fights through TIDALS to save TRIANGULUM from a beat down with what is left of their parental love. They gather the remaining GALAXIES into the dome home. They ponder at the table in the dome home. They come to terms of the Big Crunch Theory. They direct their GALAXIES to the table.)*

*(WHIRLPOOL and CARTWHEEL grab the rug and wrap it around TRIANGULUM. They lead TRIANGULUM to a seat at the table.)*

*(TRIANGULUM looks at the seat. They look at WHIRLPOOL and CARTWHEEL. They smile. They sit on a whoopie cushion.)*

## **28. BIG CRUNCH**

*(SINGULARITY and the remaining GALAXIES sit at the table in the dome home.)*

*(SINGULARITY has a hand on their chest and positions that hand as though it is holding a heart. Their other hand sits flatly under this hand.)*

*(The remaining GALAXIES emulate SINGULARITY.)*

*(SINGULARITY changes their mind. They take and hold GALAXIES' hands next to them.)*

*(The remaining GALAXIES hold each other's hands.)*

### **SINGULARITY**

HOLD THAT HOLE IN YOUR HEART.  
GIVE INTO INTERNAL DARKNESS.  
HOLD OUR LIGHT FOR ALL TIME.  
FOR IT'S CRUNCH TIME, GALAXIES.  
IN BLACK HOLES, DWELL WISDOM.  
FED BY THE SPRINKLES OF STARDUST.  
HOLD THEIR DREAMS IN YOUR PALM.  
IT IS CRUNCH TIME, MY BABIES.

*[The darkness swallows the stage, outside the dome home.]*

*(SINGULARITY and the remaining GALAXIES chorally pray.)*

### **SINGULARITY**

### **GALAXIES**

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

*(TIDALs, and maybe GRAVITY too, creep into  
the dome home.)*

*[The darkness seeps into the dome home.]*

### **SINGULARITY**

### **GALAXIES**

STRING BY STRING IN THEORY.  
AND FABRIC BY SPACETIME FABRIC.  
HOLD OUR LOVE            IN OUR HOLES / AS A WHOLE.  
IT IS CRUNCH TIME, FAMILY.

### **TRIANGULUM**

ANOMALY.

*(TIDALs pounce on SINGULARITY and GALAXIES.)*

*[Blackout.]*

*[It is the end of the universe as we know  
it.]*

*End of Act -No Intermission-*



**28. BIG BOUNCE**

*[Particles of lights dwell in the darkness.]*

**TRIANGULUM**

NOTHING!

*[A light briefly flashes.]*

**WHIRLPOOL**

NOTHING!

*[Another light briefly flashes.]*

**CARTWHEEL**

NOTHING!

*[Another light briefly flashes.]*

**ANDROMEDA**

NOTHING!



*[Another light briefly flashes.]*

**MILKY WAY**

NOTHING!

*[Another light briefly flashes.]*

*(JD shouts from the audience.)*

**JD**

NOTHING!

*(SINGULARITY and GALAXIEs, but JD, cluster together in the dome home.)*

*(GALAXIEs lower the torso and head to bow.)*

*[The lights wholly fill the dome home and illuminate SINGULARITY and GALAXIEs.]*

**GALAXIEs**

BIG BOUNCE!

*(GALAXIEs, but JD, choreographically move alongside the walls of the dome home. They are distinct in their dances.)*

*(SINGULARITY stands in the center of the dome home, amused by their GALAXIEs.)*

*(TIDALs, but GRAVITY, prowl out. They bow.)*

*(CARTWHEEL bows whenever the musical number plays the G chord and G suspended chord.)*

*(WHIRLPOOL bows whenever the musical number plays the G chord and G suspended chord.)*

*(MILKY WAY bows whenever the musical number plays the G chord and G suspended chord.)*

*(ANDROMEDA bows whenever the musical number plays the G chord and G suspended chord.)*

*(TRIANGULUM bows whenever the musical number plays the G chord and G suspended chord.)*

*(SINGULARITY bows.)*

*[The lights suddenly fill the stage.]*

*[It is the rebeginning of the universe as we don't know it.]*

*(GRAVITY emerges from in the audience. They run up to, jump on, and embrace JD.)*

*(JD pulls out a ball for old time's sake. They toss a ball onto the stage.)*

*(GRAVITY confusingly heads to ORCHESTRA. They spotlight ORCHESTRA. They point to SOUND DESIGNERS. They return to JD.)*

*(JD toss balls onto the stage.)*

*(CREW rush in. They pick up as many balls as they could. They cluster together. They bow.)*

*(COMPANY bow. They dance in spacetime.)*

*Close circuit*

**1. WORKING TITLE**

*(SINGULARITY strolls in.)*

Your hearts are in the right place.

Your stories will always be a working title.  
Entitled.

The end of mine, will always be the big bang.

*(Putting an eye patch.)*

I lost my vision. I could not see as the universe expanded.

*(Driving themself insane.)*

You are all galaxies. You have black holes for hearts. Act like one. I can't see the edge of the universe.

All I could live is for these working tidal forces!

**TRIANGULUM**

Is she/he/they alright?

*(ANDROMEDA turns their monocular elsewhere.)*

*(TRIANGULUM grimly nods.)*

**ANDROMEDA**

Do you see the edge of the universe?

*(TRIANGULUM looks through the monocular.)*

**TRIANGULUM**

Nope.

*[It seems like a moment. A billion years  
literally pass.]*

**ANDROMEDA**

Do you see it now?

**TRIANGULUM**

No. It's only been a billion years since you last asked. Give it  
some time.

*(ANDROMEDA walks closer to TRIANGULUM.)*

**ANDROMEDA**

Let me see.

**TRIANGULUM**

Andromeda... Keep your distance. Six parsecs.

*(ANDROMEDA stops in their tracks.)*