

NOW OR NEVER

can you do what it takes?

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SUMMARY

One serial killer. Two brave students. At a prestigious boarding school, what will happen when things go terribly wrong? A student killed in broad daylight, a killer with a goal to achieve. And one bright idea. Maybe skiving class isn't so bad after all?

NOW OR NEVER

ACT 1, SCENE 1

(lights turn on. narrator walks onstage, stands center and front. there's is nothing onstage.)

NARRATOR:

where we are at this moment is a prestigious school, and this play is based in a prestigious school too. except, in the school where this is based, incredibly interesting things happened, and I don't mean interesting in a good way. lets see what goes on at Westlake Private Boarding School...

(narrator exits stage. lights dim, props and furniture are placed on stage and lights brighten to show a classroom, students and a teacher. the students look bored, talk to each other)

PROF SHAH:

alright class, so can you tell me, what is the formula to determine the radius of a circle?

(no answer, children continue to talk amongst themselves)

(suddenly, the lights are dimmed. students look around in panic. voice from the background yells out)

SERIAL KILLER:

(yelling from backstage) hands in the air! kneel on the ground and put your hands in the air!

(everyone kneels and puts their hands in the air, looking scared, including the teacher. suspenseful music plays.)

SERIAL KILLER:

(threateningly) which one of you is Jordan Walters?

(one student puts their hand in the air, looking scared.

wordlessly, the serial killer shoots the boy \*gunshot sound\* and runs offstage. all children and teacher panic, screaming and yelling ensues. lights turn off completely. after, everyone walks

(offstage. some people are crying,  
sad music plays. )  
(narrator walks onstage, stands to  
the side.)

NARRATOR:

(sadly) so you see, the havoc has just  
begun for Westlake school. don't  
worry, the other kids are safe, but we  
can't say the same for Jordan. (exits)

## ACT 1, SCENE 2

(lights turn on, serial killer  
sits at teacher's table, all  
children and teacher sit on the  
floor.)

SERIAL KILLER:

good morning, class. I'm not here to  
teach you, but I am here to hold you  
hostage. you see, all of your parents  
are very rich people, and I'm going  
take a ransom. I get money, and in  
exchange, I keep you all alive.

PROF SHAH:

(spiritedly) you will be arrested for  
this horrible deed! what will you gain  
by threatening innocent children?!

SERIAL KILLER:

(angrily) keep quiet!

CLAIRE:

(quietly) I can't believe this, my  
parents will be so worried!

ALEX:

(to Claire) we need to find a way out!  
our parents care for us, they would  
hand over millions if they had to.

SERIAL KILLER:

hey, you. you two who are talking,  
bring me some food, I'm hungry. do it  
quickly!

(Claire and Alex leave as the  
lights turn off.)

## ACT 1, SCENE 3

(lights turn on to show Claire and Alex standing with a plate of food. stage is empty. suspenseful music plays continuously in the background.)

ALEX:  
I think we need to do something.

CLAIRE:  
what do you mean?

ALEX:  
we have to stop that man! he just has evil intentions.

CLAIRE:  
I know, but what do we do?

ALEX:  
(hesitantly) once, when I was skiving a class, I came across a room full of chemicals. we could go there and see if there is any chloroform or a drug that will make him unconscious until we call for help.

CLAIRE:  
it can't hurt to try. the one time skiving a class might actually help... let's go. we can't waste time.  
(they walk offstage)

## ACT 1, SCENE 4

NARRATOR:  
(comes onstage) as you can see, Claire and Alex are bravely attempting to save their school and friends. but will it work? or is the serial killer too smart to be fooled? lets find out... (exits)  
(Claire and Alex walk back onstage with a bottle and a cloth.)

ALEX:  
yes! we found the chloroform and a cloth!

CLAIRE:

so I'll go in first and give him the food, then you sneak up on him and knock him unconscious with the chloroform.

ALEX:

How do I knock him unconscious?

CLAIRE:

Try it like they do it in the movies, it can't be that hard. come on. it's now or never. (lights turn off)

# ACT 1, SCENE 5

(lights turn on. students and teacher sit on the floor in class. serial killer sits at teacher's desk.)

SERIAL KILLER:

where are those kids? I'm hungry, if they don't come soon I might raise the ransom.

PROF SHAH:

no! please don't!  
(Claire enters with food. Alex creeps up behind serial killer.)

SERIAL KILLER:

here you are! finally!  
(Claire puts the plate on the table, and before the serial killer eats, Alex comes up behind the serial killer with a cloth soaked with chloroform. he puts the cloth over the serial killer's face as suspenseful music plays. soon after, the serial killer is unconscious.)

PROF SHAH:

Alex! Claire! I cannot believe you saved us all!

CLAIRE:

we have to call the authorities before he wakes up!

PROF SHAH:

yes, good idea. (pulls out phone, calls authorities. lights turn off.)

## ACT 1, SCENE 6

NARRATOR:

(lights turn on, narrator enters) over the next few days, Alex and Claire were regarded as heroes in a time of great need. The school held a funeral for Jordan and celebrated the two heroes. (exits)

(children are standing around as Prof. Shah gets ready to say a speech.)

PROF SHAH:

(heroic music plays in background)  
children, today we are here to celebrate the success of two brave students whom we are proud to have at this school. Alex and Claire, on behalf of Westlake Private Boarding School, I'd like to say thank you. and as a treat after this trying time, all children are to go home early for the holidays until next term!

(children cheer, everyone walks offstage.)

**THE END**