

If I could tell you everything (Excerpt)

A play by Geoffrey Simon Brown
& the Theatre Junction mentorship students

April 9th, 2018

Anahita
Dana
Evelina
Kenny/Yousuf
Rain
Julia
Liz
Mac

Party

DANA: I wanna be someone else

JULIA: I wanna be somewhere else

RAIN: I wanna kiss someone on the mouth

EVELINA: I wanna do something new

ANAHITA: I wanna know that I'm alive

JULIA & DANA: I wanna be alive

MAC: I wanna be something

LIZ: I wanna be a part of something

KENNY: I wanna know how to dance

DANA: I wanna not care if I know how to dance

MAC: I wanna feel special

LIZ: I wanna make somebody feel special

RAIN: I wanna not regret the things that I say

KENNY: I wanna learn how to be confident

ANAHITA: I wanna be less fake happy

JULIA & EVELINA: I wanna feel everything

ANAHITA: I wanna not feel anything

KENNY: I wanna feel okay

MAC: I wanna be remembered

LIZ: I want someone to think I'm cool

JULIA: I wanna know everything you ever did in your life and tell you everything I ever did in my life

DANA: I wanna tell you all my secrets

LIZ: I wanna make more secrets

KENNY: I wanna go on the roof

ANAHITA: I wanna scream

RAIN & EVELINA: I wanna scream at trains

MAC: I wanna go in one of those shark tanks

JULIA: I wanna get a septum piercing

DANA & LIZ: I wanna cry about something beautiful and pretend it's not about my life

RAIN: I wanna be able to say deep shit without thinking it's cringy

MAC: I wanna throw up

DANA: I wanna be famous

EVELINA: I wanna be infamous

KENNY: I wanna go on the roof

ANAHITA: I wanna learn to speak Spanish

EVELINA: I wanna learn sign language

LIZ: I just wanna know how to talk to people

KENNY: I wanna die

EVELINA: I wanna happy cry

JULIA: I just wanna be happy

MAC: I wanna be a fish in my next life

ANAHITA: I wanna write a book with all my poetry

RAIN: I wanna pass social 30 online

KENNY: I wanna dog

LIZ: I wanna vote

EVELINA: I wanna run for mayor

DANA: I wanna run from the cops

JULIA: I wanna get my cavities filled

LIZ: I want a stress free day

RAIN: I wanna girlfriend

JULIA: I wanna give away a kidney

ALL: I wanna reopen Lloyd's

KENNY: I wanna go on the roof

MAC: I wanna FLY I wanna SWIM I wanna DRIVE

DANA: I wanna know who wrote this song

ANAHITA: I wanna turn the music down

EVELINA: I wanna make a movie

LIZ: I wanna make a band

MAC: I wanna make a pizza

ANAHITA: I want equal rights

RAIN: I wanna be in the movie dirty dancing except Jennifer Grey is Patrick Swayze and I'm Baby

ANAHITA: I wanna sleep for one million years

EVELINA: I wanna make something that no one has ever seen before

JULIA: I wanna be a radical

KENNY: I wanna go on the roof

[*Music cuts*]

EVELINA: This scene isn't very realistic

DANA: What?

EVELINA: I've only ever been to one party ever

KENNY: Me too

ANAHITA: So now you've been to two

JULIA: This isn't even a party

MAC: Why?

JULIA: Everyone's parents are here

RAIN: My sister threw a party and they broke all the beds
And threw up in all the bathrooms
And clogged all the toilets

And stained all the curtains
And stained all the sheets
And shaved half my head
And shaved half my dog's head
And stole my dog
And stole my lizard
And stole all our mail
And stole all our silverware
And stole our front door
And burned our house down
And covered our lawn in whipped cream
And told our neighbours that we make meth
And ruined our credit scores
And put our gerbils in the freezer
And spilled chemicals all over the kitchen
And had sex in the garage
And slashed all our tires
And crashed all our cars
And scratched my Lion King DVD
And stole our Panini maker

[*Beat*]

KENNY: Let's play a game

LIZ: YEAH

DANA: Truth or dare

LIZ: Yeah yeah yeah yeah yeah

[*A microphone descends from the ceiling*]

KENNY: Truth

[*What do you love?
Is projected on the back wall
They each take a turn to answer into the microphone*]

ANAHITA: Truth

[*What are you afraid of?
Is projected on the back wall
They each take a turn to answer into the microphone*]

DANA: Dare

[*A siren goes off*]

EVERYONE: OH MY GOD
DARE DARE DARE

DAAAARREEEE

DANA: I change it to truth! I change it to truth!

ANAHITA: No, that's not how it works!

DANA: I don't wanna play it anymore

MAC: Come on

The best memories come from bad decisions

RAIN: Does that mean the best life comes from bad decisions?

Because that means I've had the best life

*[Someone goes to the microphone and says a dare
Dana does the dare]*

Stories

ANAHITA: Would we only have our stories or would we also like rewrite the history books?

RAIN: We'd have them in like different books, right

MAC: There should be a book of the consequences of different major decisions

ANAHITA: An art history book

JULIA: Shakespeare

KENNY: Fairy tales?

MAC: To Kill A Mockingbird

DANA: All those dystopian books

EVELINA: Harry Potter

LIZ: Lord of the Flies

RAIN: Have you guys read the book for Wicked?

ANAHITA: No

JULIA: The one about the bunny
Who like
Gets lost

EVELINA: Peter Rabbit

JULIA: Yeah

LIZ: Then we have to retell all of these

JULIA I don't remember it

LIZ: But it's gone

KENNY: You're not gonna rewrite it?

JULIA: No, I'll just be really sad that it's gone forever

KENNY: Sad

DANA: Also we should retell Antigone
Because Geoff and Raphael felt like Antigone was important to include in the play

ANAHITA: Why?

DANA: Because it's about a person/ who

EVELINA: A woman

DANA: Yeah, a woman/ who

EVELINA: A teenage woman

DANA: Yeah, a teenage woman who is standing up against tyranny

Alone

Going against the laws of society

And ultimately changing the system

And starting a revolution

JULIA: Does she start a revolution?

DANA: Yeah!

JULIA: Over what?

ANAHITA: She's also royalty

LIZ: Of a fallen king

ANAHITA: That doesn't matter

DANA: None of that matters

ANAHITA: Yes it does

She still has a ton of privilege

DANA: Not really

They kill her at the end

MAC: Spoilers

DANA: Okay okay okay

I'm just going to tell it

Can I get the microphone again?

[The microphone either descends or someone brings one out and sets it up]

DANA: Okay

So there's this girl called Antigone

Who wanted to give her brother a proper burial

Even though it's against the law

So she went out and did it

And so the king, Kreon, is hella pissed and wants to kill her

But his son Haimon is engaged to Antigone

And begs him not to kill her

So he's like
I'm going to bury you alive with a little bit of bread and water
So technically I didn't kill you
And she's also super sassy, which I'm into
And she's very like
"You know what?
You can go fuck yourself"
Then a prophet tells Kreon he's doomed
So he tries to stop it
But Antigone's already dead
And Haimon kills himself
And Kreon's wife kills herself
And then Kreon begged the gods to kill him
But they said no
And society is forever changed

JULIA: See
It's not really a revolution
Like
What was the point?
They bury people now?
Who's even around to change things?
Kreon's still the king, he's just super depressed and will probably be a worse ruler

DANA: She stands up for an injustice
And the world changes because of it

ANAHITA: Sort of
No one listens to her
And they kill her anyway

KENNY: They'd listen to us

MAC: About what?
I don't have anything I want to change

DANA: What do you mean?
Everything is terrible

JULIA: Everything isn't terrible

DANA: Yes it is

RAIN: But everything is also okay, though too
For me

EVELINA: Yeah

KENNY: Yeah, no, okay
The real story of Antigone
Is she kills the king and then takes his body to a smelting shop

And they smelt him down
And a strange waxy substance pooled in little cylinders on the floor
And she called them Kreons
And that's how crayons were invented
And that's how art was born

*[They fight over the microphone telling the real story of Antigone
Cutting each other off
Pushing each other over
Julia is last]*

JULIA: Antigone
Is the name
Of my dentist
He's a great guy
I can give you guys his card if you want

True and False

*[Music plays
The house lights come up
Everyone applauds]*

LIZ: So obviously misinformation is a big problem right now
So in our new society we're gonna figure out a way
That we can know if something is true or not

Okay
So we're gonna say pieces of information that we read on the internet
And you guys are going to vote on whether they're true or false

*[Each person takes a turn to say a statement
Liz asks true
Or false
The audience votes
It's marked down]*

ANAHITA: Macbeth can't be said in a theatre because of some random story I don't know

Friday the thirteenth is bad luck because some king killed an entire army of people at dinner

Dog food is made of like rubber and shoe laces according to a documentary

People are dumb and think vaccinations lead to autism and don't get their kid vaccinated who then DIES
because of like a consequence that has no scientific reasoning whatsoever

That I was too bossy because I knew what I wanted

My teacher in grade three gave me a small notebook and gave me three paper clips and told me I asked
too many questions and that each day I could ask three questions and had to write them down in this book
and it made me feel as if questions were bad until high school where I question everything because
nobody know what they're doing and teachers make stuff up and people state statistics that have no
evidence backing them up so grade three me threw out that book and pretended I lost it because that
teacher was a horrible person who encouraged obedience and not curiosity

*[She drops the mic
The microphone goes back into the ceiling]*

Old school

DANA: So
Can we change the school system?

LIZ: Yeah

ANAHITA: Like learn the things that actually matter

LIZ: Sure

KENNY: Get rid of grades

LIZ: No grades

JULIA: Honestly
I just hate the school system
Like everything about it

RAIN: Like what?

JULIA: I dunno
I have so many negative views you guys'll probably think I'm a psychopath

LIZ: No!
Say it!

JULIA: They don't teach us anything
The times in my life where I was learning the most
Like in school
Was like kindergarden maybe or grade one
And then after that I wasn't learning anything
Like I never learned *anything*
And it's so sad to me
And all the times I've learned things were the times I wasn't going to school
And I think it's just like
The school system just wants us to be stupid
And like
We're learning knowledge
Like facts
But we're not learning meaning
Like english class and art classes are not put in the same spectrum as math and science classes are
Like they're not important
And it's because that's what we learn in school
Teachers are always like "know your time tables"
Like I feel like you have to have this almost photographic memory
Of pointless facts
Like "the mitochondria of the powerhouse of the cell"
You know things like that
But you don't know why you know them
I wanna know why I know that thing

I don't wanna just know facts
Like why aren't we learning things that teach us who we are and like
About the world
And it's so sad
And it's just
It's just so disappointing for me

EVELINA: I read this article a long time ago that's always stuck with me about how humans have lost touch with their sense of place
And how like
We all think that we need to have a job and like go do this thing
But then people used to just survive
And get their own food and get their own medicine and build their own shelters and do all of that
And now we don't even know where our food comes from
We don't know where our medicine comes from
And we don't know how our houses are built
So if you were to just walk into the middle of the woods
Nobody would really know what to do
We wouldn't understand it

Pop Quiz

*[Siren goes off
Everyone hides
Dana grabs a mic
Kenny grabs the container of Geoff's money]*

DANA: Okay!

So now is the part of the show where we ask the audience if they know the answers to any of the questions we're supposed to memorize in high school

If you get it right, we're going to give you real money from Geoff's modest directing fee

And if you don't, we're going to take away your phone for the rest of the show

Ready?

GO!

*[They ask audience members questions and react accordingly
When they finish, the microphone goes back into the ceiling]*

DANA: *[About the cellphones]* Okay

We're gonna put these right here and you'll get them back at the end of the show

New school

RAIN: So I think
You should just be able to pick the things you're interested in and learn that
Like if somebody
Shows a particular interest in say like
Architecture
They don't have to be so good at like
Calculus or whatever

DANA: But it's hard because you don't know what you wanna do when you're a kid, right?

MAC: But then you can always just go back and learn something else
Like if you learn about how to make houses
And after a couple years you get bored
You can just go back and learn something else

LIZ: Like spoons

ANAHITA: But then you'd have to have enough teachers to teach all of that

MAC: Yeah, I guess

ANAHITA: Hey, does anyone know how to braid hair?

RAIN: I do!

ANAHITA: Cool!

[Rain starts teaching Anahita how to braid hair]

JULIA: I know how to speak Polish!

MAC: I wanna know that!

*[Etc.
They continue to split into pairs or trios and teach each other skills
Eventually, the last person teaches the entire audience a new skill]*