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The Snow Globe

Sara Crawford
scrawfo2@my.uno.edu

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The Snow Globe

A Thesis

Submitted to the Graduate Faculty of the
University of New Orleans
in partial fulfillment of the
requirements for the degree of

Master of Fine Arts
In
Film, Theatre, and Communication Arts
Creative Writing

By

Sara Crawford

BA Kennesaw State University, 2008

December 2012
The Snow Globe
A play by Sara Crawford

Sara Crawford
3764 Station Dr.
Kennesaw, GA 30144
404-431-3511
sara@saracrawford.net
CHARACTERS

TABATHA – an 11-year-old girl

LAVETTA / VERONICA – an evil witch and toymaker / Tabatha’s mother

ETHAN – a 12-year-old boy

TARA – A doll

CLARA – A doll

THE CAT

THE CROW / THE TEDDY BEAR
ACT ONE

Prologue

(TARA and CLARA, two porcelain dolls enter. They talk in a sort of sing song tone, and there is something about them that is slightly creepy.)

TARA
Some people say there are no more witches.

CLARA
Some people don’t believe in them at all.

TARA
Why don’t they believe?

CLARA
Who can say for sure?

TARA/CLARA
Who can say for sure?

(They giggle.)

TARA
Once there was a witch they called Lavetta.

CLARA
Before she found us, we were normal dolls!

TARA
We couldn’t walk or talk or dance or sing!

CLARA
Talk or dance or sing!

(They giggle.)

TARA
She often made us forget all we knew—

CLARA
But now we remember! Let us tell you!
(The following should be acted out with the use of shadows, a projection of silhouettes, or actors whose faces are obscured.)

CLARA
When Lavetta was just a little girl—

TARA
She loved her toys more than the whole wide world—

CLARA
She noticed, though, that she could take her toys—

TARA
And make them walk and talk and dance and sing!

TARA/CLARA
Walk and dance and sing!

CLARA
She was thrilled that she could talk to toys.

TARA
And they would answer her and love her back!

CLARA
But it only ever lasted one night—

TARA
Come morning time, her toys had no magic.

CLARA
On her 8th birthday, her father gave her—

TARA
A snow globe that was very magical!

CLARA
He explained to her, time stood still inside—

TARA
And anything that was inside would live—

TARA/CLARA
FOREVER!
TARA
So she decided to make her own world—

CLARA
Inside the snow globe with all of her toys!

TARA
But her father got ill and passed away—

CLARA
And there was no one to show her the way.

(CLARA and TARA look at each other. They start hysterically crying.)

TARA
Why is life so sad?

CLARA
Who can say for sure?

TARA/CLARA
Who can say for sure?

(The dolls snap out of it.)

(CLARA and TARA look at each other. They start hysterically crying.)

CLARA
When she was a grownup—

TARA
She finally discovered a way—

CLARA
To place some of the magical toys—

TARA
Into the snow globe!

TARA/CLARA
Like us!

(They giggle.)
CLARA
She was so happy with herself that she—

TARA
Decided to put animals inside!

CLARA
She thought that she should start out with her cat.

(LAVETTA pulls her cat out of her bag. It meows once in a nonchalant way. She holds up the snow globe and whispers to herself. The cat goes inside of the snow globe.)

CLARA
Next, there was a crow she found in the woods!

(LAVETTA pulls a crow out of her bag. She holds up the snow globe and whispers to herself. The crow goes inside of the snow globe.)

TARA
Inside the snow globe, animals could talk!

CLARA
Talk and dance and sing!

CLARA/TARA
Talk and dance and sing!

TARA
Next, she wanted people in the snow globe.

CLARA
So she could turn them into plastic toys!

TARA
You see, toys will always understand you.

CLARA
Toys always listen!

TARA/CLARA
Toys will understand! Toys will always listen!

(ETHAN, a 12-year-old boy, enters, listening to music with headphones.)

TARA
One day, a boy stumbled upon her campfire.
(LAVETTA holds up the snow globe.)

CLARA

She put a spell on him to go inside—

(ETHAN drops his headphones. He disappears.)

TARA

Lavetta was so pleased that she wanted—

CLARA

To go into the snow globe for a while!

TARA

Even though it wasn’t finished quite yet—

CLARA

And there was still some work she had to do—

(LAVETTA holds up the snow globe. She disappears. The snow globe falls to the ground.)

TARA

Lavetta should not have left the snow globe—

CLARA

Inside the woods where anyone could pass—

CLARA

A girl soon came across Lavetta’s fire—

(TABATHA, an 11-year-old girl, enters. She picks up ETHAN’s headphones and looks at them. She stuffs them in her bag.)

CLARA

She found the snow globe—

(TABATHA picks up the snow globe on the ground, looking at it, completely enchanted.)

(She puts it in her bag.)

TARA

And she took it home—
What will happen now?

CLARA

Who can say for sure?

TARA

Who can say for sure?

TARA/CLARA
Toys Will Always Listen

(Inside the snow globe—a traditional old-fashioned town with little houses, trees, benches, and a church—ETHAN stands in front of the church. Hugging his arms, he is cold. He looks around.)

(The CAT slinks by in the background.)

(LAVETTA enters. Throughout the scene, she has a sense of joy—like a scientist about to engage in an experiment.)

(They stare at each other.)

ETHAN  
Where are we? And who are you?

LAVETTA  
I’m Lavetta, a witch.

ETHAN  
A what?

LAVETTA  
According to Webster, a witch is one who is credited with supernatural—

ETHAN  
Um, I know what a witch is. I didn’t think there were any…real ones.

LAVETTA  
I’m as real as they come, boy.

ETHAN  
Is that glass? Look, I really need to go home.

LAVETTA  
Why would you want to go back to that boring, stupid place? This will be your new home!

ETHAN  
What are you even talking about?

LAVETTA  
This place is a lot better than the real world.
How would you know?

(Looking intently at him)
You remind me of someone I once knew...another boy...(She snaps out of it.) Well, that was a long time ago.

(TARA and CLARA enter. They are playing together and giggling.)

Are they...dolls?

Yes! Aren’t they cool? I can make animals talk, I can make toys talk...but I’ve never turned a person into a toy.

You want to—

(looking at TARA and CLARA)
I’ve been working on some new spells, some new potions. And I think I’m on the verge of a breakthrough. If I perfect this, I’ll be able to turn you into an actual doll. Isn’t that amazing?

I don’t want to be a doll!

Being a doll will be fun! Besides, you’ll still be alive as long as you’re inside of my snow globe.

And if I’m outside of the snow globe?

Oh, you’ll just be plastic like the rest of them, but—

Plastic!?

Listen, that’s not going to happen. My spells and potions always turn out well! You’ll be perfect, just like Tara and Clara over there.
ETHAN
Look, lady, that’s cool and all, but I really need to go home…Anyway, I wouldn’t be a very good doll. Um…look at me! Do I look dollish at all?

LAVETTA
Of course you do…you look just like…well, that’s not important.

ETHAN
What if you don’t even like me? I’m mean. And…annoying! Do you really want someone stuck in your snow globe that is going to bug you all the time? (He starts to walk away, looking up at the glass.) If you let me go, I can get you someone else to—

LAVETTA
Oh, that’s ridiculous. You’ll do fine. And if you get too annoying, I can just make you act a different way. See Tara and Clara over there? I make them forget things all of the time.

(ETHAN reaches the edge of the glass. He puts his hands up on it and can go no further.)

(LAVETTA laughs.)

LAVETTA
Don’t you think I understand the physics of my own world, boy? You can’t get out like that. (She pulls out her knife and walks towards him.) Oh, I almost forgot.

ETHAN
What are you doing!? (ETHAN tries to run away from LAVETTA.)

LAVETTA
Calm down, boy! I’m not going to hurt you!

ETHAN
Then why do you have a knife?

(LAVETTA and ETHAN struggle.)

LAVETTA
I just need to collect some of your blood for my potion.

ETHAN
You can’t! (He tries to hit her. She holds out her arm and paralyzes him.)

(She is suddenly serious.)

LAVETTA
You’re going to have to shut up and be still, boy.
(She grabs his hand and cuts it.)

ETHAN

Oww!

LAVETTA

Sorry, boy. It was just a little snip. I need it to finish the spell. (She collects his blood in a vial.) What is your name anyway?

ETHAN

Ethan.

LAVETTA

(Smiling at him)

I think you’re going to be the best creation I’ve ever made!
Into The Snow Globe

(TABATHA, an 11-year-old girl, has two teddy bears and a Barbie doll on her bed. She’s playing with them.)

TABATHA

(with the 1st teddy bear)
“I swear I didn’t kill anyone, Your Honor! I’m a vegetarian!”

(with the 2nd teddy bear)
“We have witnesses. And the murder weapon was found just outside of your house.”

(with the 1st teddy bear)
“Witnesses? What witnesses?”

(with the 2nd teddy bear)
“This young woman.”

(with the Barbie)
“Yeah, like, totally.”

(with the 1st teddy bear)
“She’s your girlfriend, Your Honor! You can’t listen to her!”

(VERONICA, TABATHA’s mother, knocks on her door and enters her room.)

(TABATHA, embarrassed, throws the toys off the bed.)

VERONICA
Tabatha…dinner’s ready. What were you doing?

TABATHA
Nothing.

VERONICA
(laughing)
Nothing? So was the teddy bear guilty or not?

TABATHA
(shyly)
I don’t know.
VERONICA

(laughing)
Of course he’s not guilty. He’s your favorite teddy bear!

TABATHA

Mom…

VERONICA

(picking up the teddy bear)
I remember when you used to carry this one around with you everywhere you went. No wonder it looks so beat up.

TABATHA

Mom, really…

VERONICA

There’s nothing to be embarrassed about…But I do think you should get out of your room. Don’t you want to talk to your friends?

TABATHA

I don’t have any.

VERONICA

Oh, that’s not true.

TABATHA

Yes, it is. Everyone thinks I’m a loser, you know.

VERONICA

A loser? Why would anyone think that? You’re talented and creative and kind and smart.

(Embarrassed)

TABATHA

Mom…

VERONICA

If you put that kind of energy out into the universe—that you’re a loser or you don’t deserve friends—that’s what you’re going to manifest.

TABATHA

…What?

VERONICA

You need to think positive! Put out positive vibrations!
TABATHA
I don’t get how to do that.

VERONICA
You could start by trying to give the other kids a chance. Be nice to them. Be friendly! We haven’t even lived here for that long.

TABATHA
I like books more than people.

VERONICA
Why?

TABATHA
Books have more…magic…in them. And they aren’t mean.

VERONICA
…I see. (Pause.) Well, dinner is ready when you are. And then you should really get to bed early so you can get up for school tomorrow. You want to be well rested and centered.

TABATHA
Middle school does start a whole hour later than elementary did, you know.

VERONICA
So?

TABATHA
So I should be able to stay up an hour later!

VERONICA
Well maybe as you get adjusted, but tomorrow is the first day. You want to start out fresh with lots of rest! (She starts to exit the room when she notices the snow globe on a shelf. She picks it up.) Where did you get this?

TABATHA
I found it. In the woods.

VERONICA
It looks just like… (She stops herself.) In the woods? What were you doing in the woods by yourself?

TABATHA
Going for a walk.
VERONICA
Going for a walk? You know you’re not supposed to just wander around by yourself anymore, especially not in the woods.

TABATHA
Other people walk around by themselves. There’s a boy from our neighborhood who’s always walking that trail over there and listening to music and… Well, anyway, this snow globe was just lying in the woods next to this campfire that had gone out.

It probably belonged to someone.

TABATHA
No, it didn’t. I found it on the ground next to Ethan’s headphones. I thought you’d say it was “meant to be.”

(VERONICA looks at the snow globe for a moment.)

VERONICA
Well, it is lovely. It reminds me of… (Her voice trails off. She puts the snow globe back on the shelf.) Come down for dinner, please. We’re having your favorite! Vegetarian lasagna!

(VERONICA smiles at TABATHA and exits. TABATHA starts to walk out of the room but gets distracted by the snow globe. She picks it up. She looks at it.)

(We can see the world of the snow globe behind her as she sees it. There is a church, some benches, and buildings. ETHAN looks up, as if at her. He waves his arms, trying to get her attention.)

ETHAN
Hey!!!

(The CAT slinks by.)

TABATHA
That’s weird…I could have sworn I saw…Ethan…inside?

(TABATHA shakes the snow globe, which makes it snow. She is transported into the world within the snow globe.)

(When TABATHA is inside of the world of the snow globe, the lights dim on her bedroom.)

(She falls down beside ETHAN who is already on the ground.)
ETHAN
Are you okay?

(ETHAN stands.)

TABATHA
Where…am I? This looks like…

ETHAN
We’re inside.

(ETHAN offers TABATHA a hand. He helps her up.)

TABATHA
Inside?

ETHAN
Of the snow globe. (Pause.) The witch. She put me here.

TABATHA
The witch?

ETHAN
She’s inside the church. (Pause.) You look cold. Um…do you want my jacket? (He takes off his coat and offers it to her.)

TABATHA
Thank you…(She looks at him) You are the boy from my neighborhood. I always see you walking with your headphones, you know.

ETHAN
Oh, right… um…I think I’ve seen you before. You live in the house with the big cedar tree behind it. I used to climb it…before you and your family moved in, I mean.

TABATHA
Yes, that’s us!

ETHAN
My name’s Ethan.

TABATHA
I know. (Pause.) I’m Tabatha.
Tabatha, right.

(They share a moment.)

Why does she have you in here?

(The CAT slinks by again. ETHAN and TABATHA do not notice her.)

She wants to turn me into a doll.

Really? Why?

She wants to make her own world inside this snow globe.

You know, that’s kind of cool.

Um, it’s not “cool.” You haven’t seen the dolls that are already in here. They’re super creepy.

There are talking dolls in here?! I think that’s kind of neat.

Neat? I can’t be a doll! I’m a boy. I have a life! And I have to get home to… (His voice trails off. He holds up his hand.) Anyway, she already cut me. She’s not afraid to hurt people.

(Beat.)

She cut you? Are you sure she meant to?

Yeah!

Are you okay?

Yeah, I’m fine. It was just a scratch… Um…how did you…get in?
I don’t…know…

Can you get us out??

I’m not sure how.

I need to get home. I can’t be a toy. Anyway…I have to…school. I mean, the first day of school is tomorrow!

I know. I’m starting middle school.

Will you help me try to get out?

How?

I don’t know. If you can figure out how you got in…maybe you can get us out.

(Beat.)

Why do you want to get out so bad? I mean, we could just stay in here and never have to go to middle school.

Um…she’s going to turn me into a doll!

I think that maybe the people in here could be nicer than the people out there.

There are only three people in here. Me, you, and the witch.

What about the dolls?

They’re plastic.
But they talk!

She wants to turn *me* into plastic!

(Beat.)

Does she know that I’m here?

I don’t know…that’s a good point. I mean, if she knows that you got in somehow, she might think that you can get me out, too. We should hide.

Where?

(He stands close to her and points in the distance.)

There’s a little house over there. See? (She is looking at him as opposed to where he is pointing. She gets distracted. He points again.) Over there?

Oh…yes, I see it.

(The CROW enters.)

Do you come from the woods?

You’re a…talking crow?

Yes. Forgive me, I’m being rude. Your name is?

Tabatha.

(Shaking her hand) Nice to meet you.
TABATHA
You’re so polite!

CROW
Thank you. I’ve never been able to talk before. I hope I’m saying the right words.

(TABATHA giggles.)

ETHAN
We were gonna go over to the little house, Crow.

CROW
I see you’ve met young Ethan. He’s a nice fellow, isn’t he?

(TABATHA blushes.)

ETHAN
You wanna come with us?

CROW
Oh, actually, I just wanted to know if you saw any crows in the woods.

TABATHA
No. I don’t think so. Do you have friends there?

CROW
My Love is in the woods. And our new babies. Our eggs just hatched.

TABATHA
Oh, really!?

CROW
Yes. I’m have to get back.

ETHAN
See? No one likes it here.

CROW
I wouldn’t mind it if my Love were here. And our babies.

(TABATHA looks over at ETHAN.)
LAVETTA
(from offstage)
Ethan! Ethan, come here, would you? I need to get your measurements for your new doll outfit…

ETHAN
(To TABATHA)
Come on! We have to hide!

(The two of them rush off and the CROW flies away just before LAVETTA enters, holding measuring tape.)

LAVETTA
(Looking around)
Ethan? Ethan?

(The CAT, who has been sitting in the background, slinks out.)

CAT
(Yawning)
He rushed off so he could hide.

LAVETTA
Why would he do that?

(The CAT gives her a look.)

CAT
Why wouldn’t he? You’re the smart one who told him you wanted to turn him into a doll so….

LAVETTA
I don’t have time for this. I have an outfit to make and then a potion to perfect and so much to do! Where did he go?

CAT
So snippy, aren’t you? He ran into the little house. (LAVETTA starts to walk that way.) He’s not alone.

(LAVETTA turns back to the CAT.)

LAVETTA
He’s not alone?

CAT
There’s a girl with him.
A girl? How did she get in?

(Yawning)
Do you think I know everything?

Tell me how she got in!

How did any of us get in? It’s simply a mystery.

It’s not a mystery. It’s a combination of magic and science and you wouldn’t understand it all if I explained it to you! But the important thing to know is that I created this world, and I am the only one who decides what goes in and what comes out because I am the only one who knows the physical properties of—

Well, that’s apparently not so…

This is ridiculous. I’m going to go outside again. I’ll get her out that way.

(She closes her eyes and starts to whisper to herself.)

(Her attempt to get out of the snow globe isn’t working.)

Something wrong?

(Irritated)
I can’t leave! Why isn’t this working?? (LAVETTA looks up.) Remarkable! We’re not in the forest anymore. It appears, we’ve been moved!

You’re just now seeing this? Didn’t you wonder why we were shaken? Or why it just went totally black there for a while?

How did you let this happen!?
CAT
(Sarcastically)
Oh, yes, I have so much control over what happens to us when I’m stuck in here.

LAVETTA
(Angrily)
Well, someone must have done something to alter my rules in here, and it wasn’t me so…(Her anger subsides as she gets distracted.) Where are we?

CAT
You see that huge thing over there? That looks like a bed. So I’d say it appears to be some kind of bedroom that belongs to a young girl so—

LAVETTA
I know what it looks like. I was once a little girl, too.

CAT
Were you? That’s a shock. I so thought you were born an old, ugly witch.

I am not old! Or ugly.

CAT
Lady. You’re twice as old as I’m ever going to be. So, you’re somewhere around 185 in cat years.

LAVETTA
Can we focus please? We have a problem. Now, if my calculations are correct, there’s only one thing than can keep me out of this snow globe…

CAT
What’s that?

LAVETTA
The spell of another witch. (Pause.) What else do you know about this girl?

CAT
Well, I would assume the girl is the one who shook the snow globe. So, I’d say when it went black she put us in some kind of bag or something. Then she shook the snow globe, and somehow ended up in here with us. Now, she’s trying to help Ethan find a way out, so—

LAVETTA
That stupid little girl!!
CAT
She’s not so stupid. I’d be worried if I were you. If she finds out how to get out, she could break the snow globe. Boom. Snap. Fizzz. That’s so the end of all of us.

LAVETTA
Do you honestly think I haven’t thought about that?

CAT
Well, I’m so much smarter than you are.

LAVETTA
Okay, Cat, how many degrees do you have?

CAT
I’m a cat.

(LAVETTA is thinking.)

(TARA and CLARA enter, unseen by CAT and LAVETTA. They are playing.)

CAT
So, what are you going to do, Lavetta? How are you going to protect us if you can’t even get out of here?

LAVETTA
I’ll just have to kill the girl before she can get out.

CAT
That won’t work. If you kill her, you still won’t be able to get out. And then we’ll just be stuck in her room until someone finds us and sells us at a garage sale and then who knows where we’ll get stuck.

LAVETTA
Yes, I did think about that. (She thinks.) I’ll have to get her to leave the snow globe and take it back to my house. I know I can get out there.

CAT
That’s a start. Although, she might break it if she gets out. So you’ll need to give her some Tractus potion so she’ll do exactly what you want her to do.

LAVETTA
Stop telling me what to do! I’m the one who knows magic! I’m the one who has three degrees in the sciences and—
CAT
Look, Lady. I don’t care about your stupid degrees or your stupid spells. So you need to fix this! I’m on life number nine, so... Out there, I’m not too far from the end. Time stands still in here. I just want to...(The CAT yawns)...So...

LAVETTA
This is just perfect! You work years and years and years on something and then some stupid girl is trying to ruin it! How did she even find us in the woods?

CAT
I think she followed the boy, so...

LAVETTA
Perfect.

(Beat.)

CAT
Well, I think you so need to get going with this Tractus potion. (Pause.) Let me guess, you don’t have what you need to make it.

LAVETTA
Oh, no, I have everything except for one ingredient.

CAT
What’s that?

(She pulls out a knife.)

LAVETTA
The blood of an animal.

CAT
(Slowly backing away.)
You wouldn’t.

LAVETTA
Oh, come now. Just a little snip.

CAT
Isn’t there a crow in here somewhere?

LAVETTA
A cat is easier to catch than a crow. Especially a cat who has been my loyal pet for so many years.
CAT
I don’t know about *loyal* exactly—

LAVETTA
Do you want to get out of here or not?

CAT
What if I can catch the crow? I haven’t even *touched* him since he’s been here.

LAVETTA
I don’t have time for this! Now, I have *two* potions to make and—

CAT
Alright…fine…I’ll let you cut me a little…but you’ll have to catch me first!

(The CAT rushes off.)

LAVETTA
CAT!

(LAVETTA chases the CAT.)
Maybe She Has The Right Idea

(TABATHA and ETHAN are sitting in a little house.)

TABATHA

Why isn’t there any furniture in here?

ETHAN

Um…I don’t know.

TABATHA

How is she going to live in here if there’s no furniture?

ETHAN

I don’t think we need furniture or food or anything here. Time stands still in here.

TABATHA

If time stands still, why are you worried? We have all the time in the world.

ETHAN

What don’t you understand about “she wants to turn me into a doll”? I don’t have much time before that happens. And then, I’ll never be able to get back to my life. I’ll be trapped in here forever…as a plastic doll. (Pause.) Anyway, don’t you just want to get back to your life? I mean, don’t you want to go to school?

TABATHA

You know, I’m not really that happy about it.

ETHAN

Why not?

TABATHA

I’ve heard 6th grade is really bad. You know…I’ve heard you get picked on a lot.

ETHAN

Not if you know the right people.

TABATHA

I don’t know any people.

ETHAN

You know me.
TABATHA
You know...you’ve never even said hi to me before. I’ve lived in your neighborhood for two months almost.

ETHAN
Sorry about that.

(Awkward pause.)

TABATHA
Did you get picked on? When you were in 6th grade last year?

ETHAN
No.

(Beat.)

TABATHA
Everyone picked on me at my old school. I’m really worried about 6th grade because there are some boys who pick on me in the neighborhood.

ETHAN
Who?

TABATHA
Charlie and his friends. You know.

ETHAN
(Awkwardly)
What do they do?

TABATHA
They call me names, mostly, when I’m riding my bike or walking. Or they’ll say things like “hey, nerdy girl, why are you so ugly?” They call me “four eyes” and make fun of me whenever they see me reading a book. Even when I’m just sitting on my porch, you know, minding my own business, they’ll come by and say things like “if I had your face, I’d jump out of a window to make it look better.” (ETHAN is silent.) One time, I was riding my bike, and I saw them up in Charlie’s room. I think they were all playing video games or something. But on my next time around the block, they were all of the sudden outside. I was looking at them, and I didn’t see the huge tree branch they had put in front of my bike. When I hit it with my bike, I fell off and I fell down the hill. They all thought that was very funny. “We did you a favor,” Charlie said. “Now your face will look better.”

(ETHAN is quiet.)
ETHAN
Were you…okay?

TABATHA
I sprained my wrist, and I got some cuts and bruises. Oh, and my glasses broke. I had to get new ones. But I was okay. (Pause.) I thought you were with them that day…

ETHAN
I didn’t want to—

TABATHA
(Quietly)
It’s okay. (Pause.) My mom says I need to have stronger energy so I won’t get picked on. (She fumbles with her necklace.) She gave me this crystal. It’s supposed to help, she said. But I don’t think it is. Especially not with those boys…

(Beat.)

ETHAN
Charlie wants me to join his baseball team. He says I’d help them win.

TABATHA
Are you going to?

ETHAN
I don’t know.

(Beat.)

TABATHA
All I’m saying is that maybe this witch isn’t so bad. You know, maybe she has the right idea.

ETHAN
The right idea? She wants to turn me into a fake plastic doll.

TABATHA
I’m sure you could still talk. Like the crow.

ETHAN
He only talks because she lets him. I want to be me. I want to live my life. I want to go home and be with my friends. I want to get out of that stupid neighborhood and live with my dad, and I’ll never be able to—

TABATHA
You want to move?... I thought your parents were still married.
ETHAN
Forget I said anything.

TABATHA
Is everything…okay?

(He looks at her.)

ETHAN
You promise you won’t say anything to anyone? (She nods.) My dad moved out a few months ago. He found out about my mom’s boyfriend.

TABATHA
Your mom has a boyfriend?

ETHAN
Something like that. He’s rude, and he won’t let me play my piano. Says only girls play piano. Anyway, my dad said I could move in with him in a few weeks. But I can’t do that if I’m in here, can I?

(Beat.)

TABATHA
You play piano?

ETHAN
Yes. (Pause.) Don’t tell Charlie. About the piano, I mean.

TABATHA
Do you think he’d make fun of you?

ETHAN
I know he would. (Pause.) Listen, I’m really sorry…I mean, about Charlie. And his…friends. Trust me, I understand how he can be. (Pause.) I never thought you were nerdy. Or ugly.

(TABATHA smiles.)

TABATHA
So, what do we do now?

ETHAN
Um…maybe you can just help me get out? I mean, you can stay in here if you want to. But I need your help.

TABATHA
I don’t think I can. I don’t know how I got in here in the first place.
ETHAN
Well, just think about it. What were you doing?

TABATHA
I took the snow globe in my hand, and then I thought I saw you inside of the snow globe. I thought that was impossible, though, so I shook it. And then I was here. (Pause.) My mom would probably say my “energy” put me in here or something. Or I “manifested” it.

ETHAN
What does that mean?

TABATHA
Like when you’re thinking about something or feeling a certain way…and then that makes things happen based on how you feel.

ETHAN
Well, did you think about something or feel a certain way before it happened?

(Blushing)

TABATHA
No.

ETHAN
Are you sure?

TABATHA
No. Nothing. (Pause.) Maybe if I walked over to the edge of the glass, I could figure out how to get out.

ETHAN
Really?!

TABATHA
I could try.

(ETHAN is ecstatic.)

ETHAN
Thank you! (He gives her a hug. She blushes.) I just know you can do it! You’re the smartest girl around. I mean, if anyone can figure it out, you can.

(She smiles.)
TABATHA
Come on.

(They exit.)

(TARA and CLARA enter.)

TARA
What do you think will happen to them now?

CLARA
Who can say for sure?

CLARA/TARA
Who can say for sure?

TARA
Is the cat going to hurt the crow now?

CLARA
He’s always been so nice to us, you know.

TARA
I know! Maybe we should go and warn him!

(Beat.)

TARA
What will happen if we get out of here?

CLARA
We’ll never walk or talk or dance or sing!

CLARA/TARA
Talk or dance or sing! Talk or dance or sing!

TARA
But we might belong to a girl again!

CLARA
Oh, I would love that!

TARA
We can be real dolls!
CLARA

Real dolls!

TARA

Like long ago with sweet Veronica…

CLARA

Oh, I do remember Veronica!

TARA

She is the one who gave us both our names!

CLARA

My name is Clara!

TARA

No, I am Clara!

CLARA

No, you are Tara!

TARA

I think I would know.

CLARA

Who can say for sure?

TARA

Who can say for sure?

(CLear starts laughing.)

(The CROW flies by.)

TARA

Clara, it’s the crow!

CLARA

Hello, Mr. Crow!

CROW

Hello, Clara. Or Tara.

CLARA

My name is Tara.
TARA

No, *she is* Clara.

(They giggle.)

CROW

Have you seen this new girl? Tabatha? I think she might be able to get us out of here.

CLARA

But this place is fun!

TARA

Do you want to leave?

CROW

Why wouldn’t I?

CLARA

But if you get out…

TARA

You won’t talk or sing!

CROW

No, but I can fly.

TARA

You can fly in here.

CROW

A bird can still fly in a cage. That doesn’t mean he’s not in a cage.

TARA/CLARA

Oooooooh.

CROW

I can’t stay in here any longer. I have to get back to my Love.

TARA

Your love? That sounds sweet!

CLARA

Tell us the story!

CROW

Oh, I don’t know…
TARA/CLARA

PLEAAASSSEEEEE?

TARA

Oh, it has been so long since we have heard—

CLARA

A bird love story!

(The CROW sighs.)

CROW

I met my Love up in my favorite tree. She was just passing through one day, looking for food. She landed on one of my branches. We looked at each other. I had a big piece of bread that I was eating. I offered to share it with her. She sat next to me, and we shared bread. That’s when I knew that I wanted to fly by her side for the rest of my days.

CLARA

Awwwww.

CROW

I have to get back to her. She probably thinks I’m dead.

TARA

But if you go back, you won’t talk or sing—

CLARA

You cannot tell your Love that you love her!

TARA

You should get Lavetta to bring her here!

CROW

Crows don’t need to talk. We say it all with our eyes. They say if you look into the eyes of a crow, you’ll see your future.

CLARA

They do? Who says that?

CROW

The witches.

TARA

I hope you do get out. And find your love.
(TARA and CLARA start crying hysterically.)

CROW
Our eggs just hatched a few weeks ago. I was down on the ground looking for food for the babies when Lavetta found me and…

TARA
(Sniffling)
Oh, do not tell us anymore, sweet Crow!

CLARA
We cannot take it!

TARA
Why is life so sad?

CLARA
Who can say for sure?

TARA/CLARA
Who can say for sure?

TARA
The sweet Crow cannot be with his Love and—

CLARA
Lavetta is going to kill the girl—

CROW
What?

CLARA
She’s going to give her Tractus potion—

CROW
Tractus potion?!

TARA
Oh, do you know exactly what that is?

CLARA
You do not know what Tractus potion is? Actually, I do not know either!

(They giggle.)
CROW

Tractus potion will make someone do whatever the witch wants them to do. I’ve got to warn Tabatha about it! Do you know where they are?

TARA

They are by the edge.

CROW

Alright, I’ll be going now.

(The CROW starts to exit.)

TARA

Wait, weren’t we supposed to tell him something?

CLARA

Crow! Watch out for Lavetta and her cat!

CROW

…Thank you, dolls. I’ll be careful.

CLARA

I really hope you find your Love, sweet Crow! (CLARA looks at TARA. They start bawling again.)

(TARA and CLARA exit and we stay with the CROW as he flies to the gardens.)

(The CAT enters.)

(The following scene with the CAT and CROW should be a dance of sorts.)

CAT

Hello, Crow.

CROW

What do you want?

CAT

Why so defensive? I’ve been so nice to you.

CROW

Yes, I appreciate that. I’ll just be on my way now.

CAT

Where are you going?
I have to warn Tabatha and Ethan.

Warn them? About what?

The witch is going to kill Tabatha. And then I’ll never get out of here. Tabatha’s the only chance for any of us to leave this place.

Why do you want to leave so bad? There’s no time in here. We can do whatever we want, so—

I have to get back to my Love.

Gross. Birds are so into that whole monogamy thing. Besides, you won’t be able to talk out there.

I don’t want to talk. I just want to be a crow.

(CROW tries to pass the CAT.)

(CAT doesn’t let him by.)

I’m going back to the witch. She needs some animal blood.

Does she?

Yes. She does.

(CROW starts to fly off. CAT corners him.)

Don’t.

Oh, tough it up. It’ll only be a snip.

I have to get out of here.
CAT
If the witch finds out you want out, she’ll probably kill you. My way, you just have to bleed a little.

CROW
I’m warning you, cat. Let me go.

CAT
Or you’ll what? Peck my eyes out? I’m so scared.

(The CAT inches closer to the CROW. She pounces on him. She overtakes him.)

CROW
Let me go!

CAT
Just as soon as the witch gets some blood from you. She’s certainly not getting it from me. I bleed for no one.

CROW
Your witch isn’t your Love?

CAT
(Laughing)
No one is my love, Crow.

(The CAT exits with the CROW.)
The Edge

(TABATHA and ETHAN have just reached the edge of the snow globe.)

ETHAN
Well, this is the edge. The glass is here.

TABATHA
Oh okay. (TABATHA holds her hands up to the glass. She closes her eyes.)

(whispering)
What are you doing?

ETHAN
I don’t exactly know. (Pause.) I guess I’m trying to “manifest” being outside. Like my mom would say.

(Beat.)

ETHAN
Is it working?

TABATHA
Shh! (She tries to concentrate. She eventually gives up.) Oh, I don’t know what to do. I give up.

You’re just going to give up?

TABATHA
I don’t know how I—

ETHAN
She’s going to turn me into plastic!! Why don’t you understand that?

Why is that such a bad thing?

ETHAN
My life as I know it will be over!

TABATHA
You don’t seem that happy. Maybe being a doll would be better.
ETHAN
Why do you say that?

TABATHA
I don’t know. I always see you walking around, listening to your headphones. It’s like you’re trying to get away from something.

ETHAN
So?

TABATHA
So, now, you have an opportunity to really get away and—

ETHAN
Look, I’m not gonna lie. My house is not fun right now. Anytime my dad comes around, all he does is yell at my mom. And I can’t stand Mark—my mom’s boyfriend. All he does is yell at me and drink beer and sit around and get my mom to take care of him. One day, I was playing my piano. And I’m sitting there, and I’m writing these great songs, saying things with my fingers that I could never…actually say. And Mark comes in and hits me in the back of the head…in the middle of my song. And he says, “Why don’t you go play baseball or something, kid? Your mom has enough problems without havin’ to worry about raisin’ a queer.”

(Beat.)

TABATHA
Why do you want to go back? Life out there is mean and sad and—

ETHAN
Because. I don’t want to be plastic. I want to go back and live with my dad and keep playing my piano and keep writing songs. I want to grow up and show Mark that he’s wrong and that just because I like music more than baseball doesn’t mean I’m not…worth anything. I want to live. (Pause.) Will I even be living if I’m a doll?

(Beat.)

TABATHA
Sometimes I wish all of my dolls were real.

ETHAN
You play with dolls?

TABATHA
(looking embarrassed)
No…
(ETHAN smiles.)

ETHAN

I mean, I think that’s cute.

(LAVETTA enters, unseen by TABATHA and ETHAN. She looks at TABATHA.)

LAVETTA

(To herself)
No…she looks just like…That can’t....

(The CAT enters.)

CAT

Lavetta…I’ve brought the Crow. You can so make your potion.

LAVETTA

Cat. What’s the girl’s name?

CAT

Tabatha. Why?

LAVETTA

Are you positive?

CAT

Would I just make something up? ... Okay, so yeah, I probably would. But this is the truth.

LAVETTA

What’s her mother’s name?

CAT

How should I know that?

(LAVETTA pulls out her knife.)

LAVETTA

Find out. I need more information.

CAT

You so don’t need my blood, Lavetta. I told you I have the crow!

LAVETTA

Just find out the name of her mother!

(CAT slinks out where they can see her.)
Hello, young simple students.

(They both gasp.)

You’re…a cat…

Yeah, last time I checked…so—

And you can talk?

(Sarcastically)
Oh, can I? OH, HAPPY DAY! Of course I can talk. Stupid silly girl.

She’s not stupid.

She’s not? Hmm. I would have thought otherwise.

Um…what do you want, cat?

I can help you get out of here, you know.

Really?

Oh, yes. I so can. (He looks at TABATHA.) But you have to do it.

What do I have to do?

Well, you have to close your eyes and think of someone you’re close to. Someone you’d so like to return to. Your mother, perhaps?
Alright. Then what?

Well, you have to say her name twice. And you have to think really hard about her. And you have to *really feel* the desire to go home. To be back with your mother.

Can I do that?

No, just her.

Can she take me with her?

Sure, why not?

How?

She has to be…holding your hand.

(ETHAN holds out his hand. TABATHA looks at him. She grabs his hand and smiles.)

Alright…can you try?

Oh…okay. (She closes her eyes.) Veronica. Veronica…

(Nothing happens.)

(LAVETTA, who has been listening has a noticeable reaction to VERONICA’s name.)

(The CAT slinks back to LAVETTA.)

That’s okay. Maybe try again.

Veronica. Veronica.
(Nothing happens.)

ETHAN

(Getting upset)
Tabatha! You’re not trying hard enough!

I am too trying!

ETHAN

I mean, were you even thinking about home or your mother?

TABATHA

…Yes, I was…

ETHAN

You don’t want to get out of here at all, do you?

(TABATHA looks at him.)

TABATHA

I don’t know…

ETHAN

Maybe you’d feel differently if the witch was going to turn you into a doll! Look, Tabatha. My time is running out. I have to get out of this snow globe now, and you are the only way I can see getting out!

TABATHA

I like being in here…with you…you don’t talk to me back home.

ETHAN

Well, maybe if you knew how to stand up for yourself, jerks like Charlie wouldn’t call you so many names and wouldn’t knock you off of your bike!

TABATHA

Oh, I guess I should just bury my head in the sand and wander around aimlessly listening to music all day like you do!

ETHAN

At least I’m trying!

TABATHA

You don’t think I’m trying? How can you talk to me about standing up for myself? You don’t stand up to Charlie. You don’t stand up to Mark. You don’t do anything except try to run away.
ETHAN
Well, at least I’m not a *loser*.

(TABATHA looks like she’s about to cry.)

TABATHA
You know…you’re just like them, aren’t you?

(TABATHA runs away from ETHAN.)

ETHAN
Tabatha…Tabatha wait!

(He runs after her.)

(The CAT slinks back to LAVETTA.)

CAT
Are you going to tell me what the deal was with her mother’s name? (Pause.) Didn’t you like the way I got it out of her? I thought that was very sly, myself. She’s *so* gullible. (Pause.) Lavetta? What’s wrong?

LAVETTA
Veronica. She’s my twin sister.

(Beat.)

CAT
So?

LAVETTA
That means this girl…Tabatha. She must be a witch, too. That explains how she got in here…She…is my niece.

CAT
Well, isn’t that sweet? You two can have a nice little family reunion.

LAVETTA
Never. I will definitely have to kill her now.

CAT
(Raising an eyebrow, doubtful)
You want to kill your own niece?
LAVETTA
Bring me the crow! I have to make that potion.

(CAT exits, stifling a yawn.)

(TARA and CLARA skip onstage. LAVETTA sees them.)

LAVETTA
How long have you two been listening to me?

TARA
We’re not listening!

CLARA
Toys always listen!

(CLARA hits TARA lightly to shut her up.)

CLARA
(Quietly)
Ooops.

LAVETTA
I’ll have to make you forget everything. (She holds out her arms and casts a spell on the dolls.) You’ll only know what I want you to know!

(CLARA and TARA close their eyes. When they open them, they have blank expressions on their faces.)

(TARA looks at CLARA. They giggle.)

TARA
What is so funny?

CLARA
Who can say for sure?

TARA
Who can say for sure?

CLARA
Who can say for sure?

(They giggle.)
Never Too Old For Dolls

(TABATHA sits on a bench, crying. TARA and CLARA enter.)

CLARA
Aww, what’s wrong with you?

(TABATHA looks at them.)

TABATHA
You’re the talking dolls?

TARA/CLARA
Indeed! We can walk and talk and dance and sing!

(They giggle.)

(TABATHA sniffling)
That’s nice.

CLARA
Why are you so sad?

TARA
Do you need some dolls!?!

TABATHA
No. I’m too old for dolls.

CLARA
You are never too old to play with dolls!

TARA
Yeah!

TABATHA
You know, I don’t feel like playing.

CLARA
Oh, come on. We can tell that you’re a girl—

TARA
Who really likes to play with dolls! We know!
I like to make up stories.

You can make up a story about us!

(They giggle.)

I’m not in the mood. Only losers make up stories.

What is a loser?

A weird girl who no one wants to be around.

(ETHAN enters.)

Tabatha…I’m sorry…I mean, I just—

Go away.

Won’t you just let me explain? Um…I didn’t mean any of that.

Yes, you did.

What’d he say to you?

He called me a loser.

Ooooooh. That is not nice.

Go home, little boy!

Little boys are dumb!
Um, I’m 12 years old. I’m not a little boy. Anyway, you two know my name is Ethan.

Ethan? I have never met you before.

Nope. I do not know any little boys.

Who can say for sure?

You’ve both met me! (He thinks for a moment.) (To TABATHA) Tabatha, see? Lavetta must be casting spells to make them forget! She told me she did that sometimes! When we first met. That’s what she’ll do to me! We have to get out!

You don’t care about me. You just want to leave. You know, you’re just as mean as all the other boys.

No, I’m not.

Yes, you are! Maybe you never said any of those mean things that Charlie and those guys always say to me, but you never did anything to stop them. You stood right there that day I was on my bike and I got hurt. You didn’t say anything. I should have known better than to talk to you in the first place. You know, if I hadn’t been following you, none of this would have happened.

You were following me?

(TABATHA is embarrassed. This upsets her even more.)

I mean…no. I wasn’t following you. I was just…go away, Ethan! Just leave me alone!

I’m not going away until you forgive me.
CLARA

She said go away.

TARA

Yeah! No boys aloud!

CLARA/TARA

(Chanting)
Go away! Go away! Go away! Go away!

(They push him off stage.)
LAVETTA

(To the CAT, off stage)
Cat, bring me the crow.

(The CAT comes on stage, holding the CROW.)

CROW

(To LAVETTA)
Why are you doing this?

CAT

She needs to make the potion.

CROW

No, why are you doing any of this? The snow globe? What is the point? You aren’t creating another world, you’re creating a prison.

(LAVETTA delivers the following monologue as she is making the potion.)

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(The following should be acted out with the use of shadows, a projection of silhouettes, or actors whose faces are obscured, similar to the Prologue.)

LAVETTA

Let me tell you a story, Crow. Once upon a time, there were two twin girls. One of the girls was popular and had a lot of friends. The other girl was obsessed with books and science experiments, and everyone made fun of her. One day, though, the bookworm made a friend. A little boy from the neighborhood. She was getting picked on by a bunch of older kids at the park one day. They had thrown her into a large dumpster in the back of the restaurant down the street, and she had gotten egg salad all in her hair. She sat in the dumpster for three hours, crying. No one noticed she was there. Until the little boy, her new friend, passed by. He helped her out of the dumpster. The two of them were inseparable from that day on, and she was no longer an outcast. One day, they were playing outside when her popular twin sister came by. Her sister said some words, threw her hands in the air, and the little boy fell down dead. (Pause.) The popular sister swore it was an accident, that she thought she was using a different spell. But the outcast sister always knew she did it on purpose to take her only friend away from her. (Pause.) Toys, though, they are always there for you. They will always listen to you. They will never be mean to you or leave you or die. And they’ll let you experiment! And create new things! I’m creating a wonderful world of toys and animals! Inside of a snow globe that can never be broken. (Pause.) There’s only one problem. I was going to put the spell on the snow globe to make it unbreakable, but I hadn’t gotten around to that yet… And then who finds her way into my snow globe?
Tabatha. The daughter of my sister. Now, this presents a problem because Tabatha could potentially ruin everything I have worked so hard to create. But it also gives me an opportunity to show my sister exactly how it feels to lose someone you care about. (She pulls out her knife.) I’m going to make this potion. Tabatha is going to leave the snow globe and take us all back to the forest. Then, I will get out myself and kill her. (She approaches the CROW.)

CROW
But Tabatha had nothing to do with your friend dying. She’s innocent. And your sister…what if it was an accident?

LAVETTA
It was not an accident! She always loved that she had a lot of friends and I had none. She couldn’t stand that I had a friend. No one out there understands me, Crow. A girl who’s obsessed with science...and magic? There’s no place for me out there. I’m creating my own world!

CROW
What good is that if everyone wants to leave as soon as you put them in here?

LAVETTA
Do you want to leave, Crow?

CROW
Yes. More than anything.

(LAVETTA gets angry. She raises her knife.)

LAVETTA
I need your blood. For the potion.

CROW
No one is ever going to love you if you keep them caged.

(LAVETTA gets angrier. She stabs the CROW. He falls to the ground.)

(She continues to stir the potion with her knife.)

(The CROW looks at the CAT.)

CROW
(Weakly, to the CAT) If you ever get out of here, tell my Love that I never forgot about her. All you have to do is look in her eyes. She’ll know.

(The CROW dies.)
LAVETTA
The potion is done!

CAT
I didn’t think you were going to kill him… You didn’t have to.

LAVETTA
He made me angry. (Pause.) Where is the girl?

(She pours some of the potion into a bottle.)

CAT
Over there. Just by the edge.
Tractus Potion

(LAVETTA approaches TABATHA, who is still sad.)

LAVETTA

Why are you crying?

TABATHA

(Sniffling)
I’m not.

LAVETTA

I can see your tears.

(TABATHA looks at her. She gasps.)

TABATHA

You look just like my mother.

LAVETTA

Do I?

TABATHA

You aren’t my mother…are you?

LAVETTA

No.

TABATHA

Why are boys so mean?

LAVETTA

That’s something I still haven’t been able to figure out. But I have a theory. It’s not just boys. It’s everyone.

TABATHA

It doesn’t get better?

LAVETTA

Sometimes you will find people who are decent to you.

TABATHA

You will?
LAVETTA
Oh, yes. But you have to keep them close when you find them. You can’t ever let them go.

What happens if you let them go?

TABATHA

LAVETTA
You could lose them forever.

TABATHA
Really?

(Lightly)
I’ve lost everyone.

TABATHA
Is that why you’re making this snow globe?

LAVETTA
Yes.

TABATHA
I like it in here.

LAVETTA
Do you?

TABATHA
Yes. I like the cat and the crow who talk and the dolls. I think they’re lovely. (Pause.) I wish I were a witch.

LAVETTA
And what would you do if you were?

TABATHA
I don’t know. I think I would make the boys in my neighborhood be nicer to me, you know.

LAVETTA
You can’t really do that with magic…

TABATHA
You can’t?

LAVETTA
Not out there.
(Beat.)

TABATHA

Ethan thinks I’m a loser.

LAVETTA

He won’t be thinking anything I don’t want him to think when I turn him into a doll.
(TABATHA is cautious for the first time.) Are you thirsty? I have some tonic with me.

(She presents the potion to TABATHA.)

TABATHA

You do?

LAVETTA

Yes, would you like some?

TABATHA

I’m not really thirsty. Ethan said no one needs to eat or drink in here. You know. Time stands still.

LAVETTA

What would he know? I am the one who made the snow globe. I can do a lot of things in here, but I can’t completely change biological needs…(She offers her the potion.) It tastes like strawberries. (She takes a sip.) See?

TABATHA

Well…alright.

(TABATHA reluctantly takes the potion from her and drinks it.)

TABATHA

Ethan thinks you’re mean.

LAVETTA

And what do you think?

TABATHA

I don’t think you should turn people into dolls. Unless they want to be dolls, you know. But I think you’re a lot like me. I think you just want to have some friends.

(LAVETTA looks pensive.)
LAVETTA

Really? That’s a shame.

(The potion is starting to take effect on TABATHA.)

TABATHA

You know…I feel really weird.

(TABATHA falls to the ground.)

(It starts snowing as if the snow globe has been shaken.)

(ETHAN runs up to the glass and pounds on it.)

ETHAN

Tabatha! Can you hear me? Tabatha? Tabatha?? Where did you go?

(Inside TABATHA’s bedroom, TABATHA is lying on the ground. The snow globe is in her hand. She wakes up and looks at it.)

ETHAN

Tabatha! I’m sorry. The truth is, I think you’re the bravest girl I know. I wish I could be more like you. I wish I could stand up to Charlie. I wish I could stand up to Mark. (Pause.) And I’m sorry…about the bike. You’re right. I mean, I just sat there. I watched Charlie and those guys be mean to you, and I didn’t say anything. I would take it all back now if I could. You have to help me get out of here. You’re the only one who can! I just know it. (Pause.) I haven’t seen the crow around…I’m worried about him. One day, he was flying by, and he stopped and looked at me. I looked deep into his eyes. I couldn’t believe he was just staying that still. I saw something, Tabatha. I saw…you. You’re the only way for me to get out of here. Please help me? I’m really scared.

(TABATHA looks brainwashed. She puts the snow globe in her pocket.)

(VERONICA enters TABATHA’s bedroom.)

VERONICA

Tabatha? Are you coming down to dinner? (TABATHA doesn’t say anything. She looks brainwashed.) Sweetie? (TABATHA walks to her window. She starts to climb out of it.) What are you doing!?

TABATHA

I have to go to Lavetta’s house.

VERONICA

Lavetta?! What’s wrong with your eyes, Sweetie?
I have to go to Lavetta’s house.

Come inside…

(VERONICA grabs TABATHA’s wrists and pulls her inside of the room. TABATHA pulls out the snow globe from her pocket and looks into it.)

I have to go to the woods…

Into the woods? What are you talking about?

I have to go…

(Looking at the snow globe)
What are you doing with this? (She tries to grab it from her.) It’s almost like…you’ve been given…a potion…

The woods…

(VERONICA grabs TABATHA and looks in her eyes.)

Tractus potion!?

(TABATHA tries to walk to the window.)

(VERONICA lifts up her hands and whispers some words. TABATHA passes out on the ground, dropping the snow globe.)

(VERONICA picks up TABATHA and puts her on the bed. She notices the snow globe and picks it up.)

(VERONICA looks into the snow globe.)

(TARA and CLARA enter. They are apart from the world of the snow globe and also TABATHA’s bedroom.)
CLARA
You will probably wonder what happens—

TARA
If the mean witch didn’t make us forget—

CLARA
Oh, we would have been wondering that too—

TARA/CLARA
We would have wondered—

TARA
Will sweet Ethan get out of the snow globe?

CLARA
Oh! Or will we get out of the snow globe?

TARA
Oh! Do you think Tabatha will wake up?

CLARA
Or will Lavetta turn people to toys?

TARA
Oh! Will the cat scratch Lavetta’s eyes out?

CLARA
Maybe Tabatha will come save Ethan.

TARA/CLARA
Awwwww.

TARA
Maybe Tabatha will break the snow globe!

CLARA
Or maybe Lavetta will kill Ethan!

TARA/CLARA
Oh no!

TARA
Oh, what will happen?
CLARA

Who can say for sure?

TARA/CLARA

Who can say for sure? Who can say for sure?

(They look at each other and giggle.)

(Black out.)
ACT TWO

(TARA and CLARA enter.)

Inside the snow globe—

Lavetta finished—

The Tractus potion—

So Ethan could become a doll like us!

I wonder if he will still be able—

To walk and talk and dance and sing like us!

Talk and dance and sing! Talk and dance and sing!

Lavetta wanted to give him potion—

While she waited for Tabatha to bring—

The snow globe to her house where it’d be safe!

Meanwhile, Veronica gave Tabatha—

An antidote for Lavetta’s potion—

And now she’s waiting for her to wake up—
(In TABATHA’s bedroom, TABATHA is lying on the bed. VERONICA is pacing around the room. She has placed a wash cloth on TABATHA’s head.)

(Groggily)

TABATHA
Mom?

VERONICA
Tabatha, Sweetie. Are you okay?

TABATHA
My head hurts. What happened?

VERONICA
Lavetta. The witch...She gave you Tractus potion. (She gives TABATHA a bottle.) Here, you need to drink more of this. It’s an antidote to all of Lavetta’s potions.

TABATHA
How do you know about the witch? (VERONICA is silent.) Mom?

VERONICA
She’s my sister. We’re twins.

TABATHA
I...have an aunt...who’s an evil witch?

VERONICA
I’m afraid so.

TABATHA
Are you a witch? (VERONICA is silent.) Mom??

VERONICA
Yes. I’m a witch. I haven’t practiced magic, though, since I was a little girl. At least, nothing besides protective spells.

TABATHA
You never thought it was important to tell me that you were a witch? Or that you had a twin sister? (Pause) Am I a witch, too? (Pause.) Am I??

VERONICA
Yes.
(Beat.)

TABATHA
Why didn’t you ever tell me? If I had known I was a witch, I could have done something when Charlie and those guys were picking on me. I could have—

VERONICA
I didn’t want you to know. Magic is dangerous! I thought if you never found out, you might not ever—

TABATHA
That’s how I got into the snow globe, isn’t it? I used magic somehow.

VERONICA
Yes. I imagine so.

TABATHA
(Getting up)
I have to go back. I have to save Ethan.

VERONICA
No, you can’t do that! Lavetta will kill you if you go back.

TABATHA
Why didn’t she kill me when I was in there? Why did she give me that potion? She needed me to do something.

VERONICA
I think she gave you the Tractus potion to move her snow globe. I put a protective spell on this house when we moved in so that she could never be inside the house. So if she tried to leave the snow globe while it was here, it wouldn’t have worked.

TABATHA
Why did you do that?

VERONICA
I do that to every house we live in. I’ve been hiding from Lavetta ever since we were children. Our father gave her that snow globe. She always said she was going to...(her voice trails off.)

TABATHA
What else do you know about this snow globe? (VERONICA is silent.) Mom, you need to tell me what you know so I can save Ethan.
VERONICA
Tabatha, you simply cannot go back in there. We have to break the snow globe. That’s the only way I can think of to stop her. And as long as the snow globe is in the house, she can’t leave.

Wouldn’t that kill her?

VERONICA
She’s out of control. She’s going to kidnap a lot of innocent people, trap them in that snow globe, kill them, turn them into toys, whatever she wants to do. She knows magic, but she has no power in the real world. So she made a world where she has all of the power. She got you involved. I know she would kill you, especially if she found out who you were. She has to be stopped. There’s no other way.

TABATHA
Why don’t you use magic? You could go in there and—

VERONICA
I only do protective spells.

TABATHA
Can you put a protective spell on me?

VERONICA
I’m afraid not. That doesn’t work on people.

Why don’t you come with me?

VERONICA
I don’t think I’m even strong enough to get in there. And even if I got in there, I’d be powerless against her.

TABATHA
(Angrily)
Why can’t you just “manifest” what you want? Why can’t you make your “energy” stronger?

VERONICA
Tabatha, this is no time to get smart.

TABATHA
Well, you’re always saying that I get bullied so much because my “energy” isn’t strong…because I’m putting out “weak vibrations” or something. And this whole time, you’ve been a witch? You’ve given me crystals and told me to “meditate” and “be positive.” Why didn’t you teach me something useful like magic?
VERONICA
I don’t practice that kind of magic anymore! I never wanted that for you.

TABATHA
Anymore? You used to? (VERONICA is quiet.) What happened?

(Beat.)

VERONICA
There was an accident.

TABATHA
What kind of accident?

VERONICA
When we were younger. Father was a wizard, and he had just told us we had magic, too. We were just learning how to use it. Lavetta had this friend, this really cute boy who lived down the street. I guess I was jealous that he wanted to hang out with her and not with me. So one day, I thought it would be funny if I made him fall asleep. But I did the spell wrong … he … well … Lavetta thought that it was on purpose. She thought I meant to…She never forgave me for that. She was never the same after that. Father gave her the snow globe, and she became obsessed with the idea of turning it into a magical world. She liked to make her dolls do magic. She even stole my dolls…my favorite dolls…I named them Tara and Clara…God knows what she did with them. (TABATHA is quiet.) She’s not my sister anymore, Tabatha. I’ve tried to stay as far away from her as possible. I never wanted her to know about you because she threatened every person I’ve ever loved. I’ve always managed to get away from her, though, and nothing bad has ever happened…(VERONICA picks up the snow globe.) I just can’t risk having you go back in there, Tabatha. (She starts to throw it on the ground.)

TABATHA
No! (TABATHA stretches out her arm. VERONICA is suddenly paralyzed, unable to throw the snow globe.)

VERONICA
What are you doing? (VERONICA unfreezes herself. TABATHA grabs the snow globe from her.)

TABATHA
I can’t let you break the snow globe. Listen, I’m sorry about you and Lavetta. I really am. But Ethan can’t die just because we have to stop Lavetta. I know he stood by and didn’t say anything when Charlie picked on me…but he’s not really like that. He’s sweet and kind. And he needs to get back so he can go live with his dad and play the piano and… Lavetta wants to turn him into a doll. His life will be over.

(Beat.)
VERONICA

Just think about it Tabatha. Maybe you can get Ethan out without having to go back in! Have you tried that?

TABATHA

No…

VERONICA

Look into the snow globe. See what you can see.

TABATHA

Time stands still in there. I can’t see anything. They’re all frozen.

VERONICA

Look again. You *can* see.

(TABATHA looks into the snow globe.)

(We can see into the snow globe.)

(ETHAN sits on the ground, looking miserable.)

(TARA and CLARA enter.)

TARA

Lavetta finished the tractus potion!

CLARA

So you will be a plastic doll like us!

(TARA and CLARA giggle.)

ETHAN

(Almost defeated)
Can’t I just be a boy inside of the snow globe?

CLARA

Lavetta tells us if you are a doll—

TARA

You will never, ever want to leave here!

ETHAN

Um…don’t *you* ever want to leave?
TARA
In here, we walk and talk and dance and sing!

CLARA
Talk and dance and sing!

ETHAN
Don’t you just want to be dolls sometimes? I mean, because that’s what you are. I want to be a boy.

TARA
Who can say for sure?

CLARA
Who can say for sure?

TARA
Talk and dance and sing!

CLARA
Talk and dance and sing!

ETHAN
Don’t you get it? She doesn’t want me to be a doll. She wants me to be a puppet. She wants all of us to be puppets!

CLARA
Who can say for sure?

TARA
Who can say for sure?

ETHAN
You’re not even listening to me.

(They each grab his arms.)

TARA
You have to come on!

CLARA
Come with us! With us!

(TARA and CLARA drag ETHAN off stage.)
TABATHA
She’s about to turn Ethan into a doll…and I have to go in there and save him!

VERONICA
Wait!

TABATHA
I could only see into the snow globe. I couldn’t do anything! The only way I can get him out is to go back in again. So you can stay silent, or you can give me advice to help me get in and out safely, but either way, I’m going back.

(Beat.)

VERONICA
Give me your crystal.

(TABATHA takes off the necklace and hands it to VERONICA. VERONICA holds it her hands and closes her eyes.)

TABATHA
Mom, what are you doing?

(VERONICA doesn’t respond. She is whispering to herself.)

VERONICA
Here. (She hands the crystal back to TABATHA.) I enchanted the crystal. If it worked, it should magnify your power.

(TABATHA looks at the crystal)
Thank you…(She puts the necklace back on.)

VERONICA
When you got in the first time, what were you thinking about?

(Beat.)

TABATHA
I saw Ethan in there. I was thinking about him and how I wanted to help him. I shook the snow globe, and then I was inside.

VERONICA
Okay. You should be able to get in if you do that. Getting out will be tricky. (VERONICA picks up TABATHA’s teddy bear. She closes her eyes and holds it, whispering to herself.)
TABATHA
Mom, what are you doing with Teddy? This is no time to—

VERONICA
Just take it! (VERONICA hands the teddy bear to TABATHA.) I put a spell on the teddy bear to connect an object with your room. If you hold onto him, he should be able to take you back. Anything else you hold onto will travel with you. Grab Ethan’s hand.

How do you know?

VERONICA
(Unsure)
Well, I don’t know. But hopefully it will work.

(Beat.)

TABATHA
It will work. I will make it work.

VERONICA
You’re right. It will.

TABATHA
I’ve never really understood before. All of that stuff you always say about manifesting. But I think I get it now. You know…if I really believe I can do it…

VERONICA
(Smiling)
You can.

(TABATHA gives VERONICA a smile. She holds the teddy bear and turns to look at the snow globe. She closes her eyes. She shakes the snow globe.)
Time Does Stand Still

(TABATHA is inside of the snow globe. TEDDY BEAR is next to her. It is still snowing from when she shook it.)

TABATHA
Where is everyone?

TEDDY
WOWIE. I can talk!

TABATHA
You can!

TEDDY
This is great! Yippee! (He dances around.)

TABATHA
Teddy, I need you to help me. Can you do that?

TEDDY
Righty-roo, Tabatha! But first you have to tell me something!

TABATHA
What?

TEDDY
In the story…the one you were playing earlier…was I really guilty?

TABATHA
(Smiling)
Oh, no. It was a conspiracy. The judge and his girlfriend framed you, you know.

(TEDDY starts laughing.)

TEDDY
HOLY MOLY, that’s good! I always love your stories!

TABATHA
(Smiling)
Thank you.

(ETHAN’s scream can be heard from off stage.)
TABATHA
Ethan! We have to find him!

TEDDY
I think that was coming from over there! Inside that church!

TABATHA
That means the witch must be in there…

(TARA and CLARA come running by.)

TABATHA
Tara! Clara!

(They notice her.)

TARA
It’s the little girl!

CLARA
Hello, little girl!

TABATHA
Is Ethan in the church?

CLARA
Who on earth is he?

TARA
Who can say for sure?

TABATHA
The boy.

TARA
He’s being turned into a plastic doll!

CLARA
Yeah! We were supposed to go and see it!

TARA
Who’s the teddy bear?

CLARA
He sure looks cuddly!
I’m Teddy! It’s nice to meet you!

TARA

Why are you in here?

TEDDY

I’m helping Tabatha! She’s my best friend!

TARA/CLARA

Awww.

TEDDY

You two sure are pretty!

(The dolls giggle.)

TABATHA

Tara, Clara, can you help me?

TARA

Oh, help you?

CLARA

With what?

TABATHA

I’m trying to get Ethan out before he becomes a doll.

CLARA/TARA

Oooooooh.

(They look at each other.)

TARA

We’ll surely help you!

CLARA

Can we go with you?

TEDDY

Wowie! Yay!

TABATHA

You won’t be able to talk—
Talk or dance or sing—

Oh, but we really want to be real dolls—

So happy little girls can play with us!

I like to make people happy!

(They all laugh and dance around.)

Hey!

(They all stop and look at TABATHA.)

I promise I will take you with me, but you have to help me. (She looks at TEDDY.) Teddy, this will involve you, too. (She whispers the plan to them.) Okay, you got it?

Righty-roo!

(The dolls giggle.)

Okay. I’m going to hide.

(TABATHA hides.)

(Inside the church, ETHAN is tied up and obviously in pain. LAVETTA is standing in front of him. The CAT is by her side.)

How long is this going to take?

It takes half an hour to complete the process. At least, that’s how it would work out there. I don’t know how long it will take in here.

Time does stand still.
LAVETTA

What is your problem?

CAT

I don’t see why you had to kill the crow.

LAVETTA

If we were outside, you would have killed him. The food chain.

CAT

I’m a cat. He’s a bird. That’s so different.

LAVETTA

Why do you care?

CAT

So I don’t understand why you would go through all of the trouble of putting him in here if you’re just going to kill him.

LAVETTA

He wanted to leave.

CAT

So you’re just going to kill everyone who wants to leave? What about the boy?

LAVETTA

Once he’s a doll, he won’t want to leave.

CAT

How do you know that?

LAVETTA

Do you want to leave?

CAT

No, Lavetta, I don’t want to leave. Actually, I just want to take a little snooze. But I can’t because you keep thinking of ways to get us all killed. So, I’m saying that girl is dangerous. She’ll break the snow globe just to kill you if she can…not that I blame her for that. You’re getting a little out of hand. You so need to get this snow globe under control.

LAVETTA

I am. I gave her the Tractus potion. She’ll be taking us back to my house in no time. Then I can kill her, and everything will go back to normal. As long as no other witches or wizards ever find the snow globe, we’ll be okay.
CAT
You said you had everything under control before, but you obviously didn’t. So how do you even know?

(TARA and CLARA enter the church.)

TARA
Lavetta! Come quick!

CLARA
There’s a teddy bear!

TARA
No one knows exactly how he got in!

(CAT looks pointedly at LAVETTA.)

CAT
This is so what I’m talking about.

TARA
He’s very nice, though!

CLARA
Please do not hurt him!

LAVETTA
(to CAT)
Did you know about this?

CAT
How would I have known about this? Honestly, Lavetta.

LAVETTA
I bet Tabatha had something to do with it.

CAT
I bet she did, too. I told you that one was smart.

LAVETTA
Enough! Come on!

(LAVETTA exits the church with TARA and CLARA. CAT follows her.)

(TABATHA sneaks in the church.)
(Whispering)
Tabatha?

(Weakly)
Tabatha? You came back?

Of course I did. I couldn’t let her turn you into a doll.

I’m sorry…about before…I…

Shhh. It’s alright.

(TABATHA tries to untie ETHAN.)

These ropes! She put a spell on them!

(TABATHA raises her hands.)

What are you doing?

I’m a witch.

You’re a…what?

Shh! I need to concentrate to get these ropes off.

(She moves her hands. The ropes get tighter.)

OWW!

Sorry! I accidentally made them tighter! This magic stuff is new. I just…

(She tries again. Nothing happens.)
ETHAN

You’re…a witch?

TABATHA

Shh. I can do this. I just have to see it.

(TABATHA closes her eyes. She raises her hands. The ropes come off of his hands.)

ETHAN

It worked!

TABATHA

Come on! We have to get you out of here!

(TABATHA grabs ETHAN and helps him out. ETHAN stops and looks at her.)

ETHAN

She killed the crow.

TABATHA

What?

ETHAN

She killed him. Before you left.

(ETHAN coughs and winces in pain.)

TABATHA

My mom has an antidote to her potion! You just have stay with me, alright? I just have to get us all out of here. Tara and Clara and my teddy bear.

ETHAN

Your…what?

TABATHA

Shhh.

(TABATHA helps ETHAN up. He leans on her shoulder as she walks slowly with him out of the church. As they walk, the following dialogue takes place outside of the church.)

LAVETTA

Where is this bear you were talking about? I do not see anyone.
TARA
Oh… (loudly) I swear there was just a teddy bear out here…

TEDDY
(From behind a tree)
Oh yeah! That’s me!

(TEDDY pops out from behind the tree and starts dancing.)

TEDDY
Hello!

LAVETTA
How did you get in here?

TEDDY
Tabatha put me in here from her room! (He laughs.)

(LAVETTA looks up.)

LAVETTA
(To CAT)
Why are we still in her bedroom? She should have taken us to my house by now!

CAT
Maybe your potion didn’t work.

LAVETTA
Nonsense! That potion was perfect! I even tasted it myself!

CAT
Well, fine, do you want to explain to me how Tabatha’s teddy bear is in our snow globe right now if the potion was so “perfect”?

LAVETTA
(to TEDDY, threateningly)
Now, you tell me how you got in here right this moment or I will—

TARA
No, Lavetta, don’t!

CLARA
Please do not hurt him!
LAVETTA
Shut up! (She strikes the dolls. They fall down. She pulls her knife out and holds it to TEDDY.)
You tell me how you got in here right now or I’ll…pull all of the stuffing out of you!

TEDDY
Well…your Honorable Witchiness…(TEDDY is obviously lying as he creates this story.) I’m one of Tabatha’s…magical toys. I picked up the snow globe when she was inside of it, and she saw me. And then she helped me get in here! But now, I haven’t seen her…I think she’s outside. Do you know where she is?

(LAVETTA looks up.)

LAVETTA
I don’t see her anywhere. We appear to still be in her room and…(she sees something.) What is….

CAT
It looks like a giant version of you.

LAVETTA
Veronica…(She looks around.) Tabatha has to be in here somewhere. Otherwise, my twin sister would have shattered the snow globe by now. I bet she was the one who put the protective spell on the house. She has been hiding from me ever since she killed my best friend.

What are you going to do?

LAVETTA
I don’t… (She thinks.) I’ve got it. I’ll simply turn Tabatha into a doll, too. If she’s stuck in here, Veronica will never break the snow globe.

CAT
Because giving Tabatha potion worked so well the last time. They obviously have some kind of antidote.

LAVETTA
Veronica…Father taught us how to make an antidote that would work against any magical potion…that must be how Tabatha could fight the Tractus potion. (LAVETTA gets angry.) We have to find Tabatha and turn her into a doll now. You go back into the church and check on Ethan.

CAT
Why are you telling me what to do? You’re the one who knows magic.

LAVETTA
Are you going to help me or not?
(The CAT looks at LAVETTA.)

CAT
Fine. (CAT goes back inside church.) Oh, Lavetta…

LAVETTA
WHAT?

(CAT exits church.)

CAT
Ethan. He’s not there.

LAVETTA
What do you mean, he’s not there?

CAT
Someone’s untied him.

TARA/CLARA
Ooooooooh.

TEDDY
What do you think will happen?

CLARA
Oh, I do not know!

TARA
But it’s exciting!

CAT
It seems Tabatha is more in control of this place than you are.

LAVETTA
Nonsense! I’m the witch!

(TABATHA enters. She carries ETHAN, who is almost passed out from the pain.)

TABATHA
Not the only witch!

LAVETTA
I’ve had enough of this.
(LAVETTA pulls out her knife.)

TABATHA
You would kill your own niece?

LAVETTA
You would kill your own aunt?

TABATHA
I don’t want to kill you, you know. I just want you to let us all go.

LAVETTA
Never! This is my world. Why can you not just leave us all alone?

TABATHA
Your world where you turn people into dolls against their will and kill innocent crows.

TARA
The witch killed a crow?

CLARA
Oh, that is so mean!

(TARA and CLARA start crying.)

(TEDDY consoles them.)

LAVETTA
That crow had it coming.

TABATHA
He just wanted to get back to his Love.

(LAVETTA tries to stab TABATHA. She quickly moves out of the way.)

TABATHA
You don’t have to do this, you know. Any of it. Leave the snow globe. Destroy it.

LAVETTA
Destroy the work of my life? You’re such a naïve, stupid girl.

TABATHA
No, I’m not.
(LAVETTA tries to stab her again. TABATHA stretches out her arm and tries to paralyze her. Nothing happens.)

LAVETTA
Really?? You think you have any power over me?

(LAVETTA goes to stab TABATHA. TABATHA blocks with her arm, and her arm gets cut.)

(TABATHA doesn’t wince.)

TABATHA
I don’t understand…why didn’t it work?

LAVETTA
What kind of witch do you think you are? I have spent years and years on this snow globe.

TABATHA
If you create a world to escape all of the mean people, and then you’re even meaner, what good will that do? Don’t you think you’ve been meaner to me than anyone’s been to you? How about Ethan? Or the crow?

LAVETTA
You shouldn’t talk about things you don’t understand, little girl.

TABATHA
I understand more than you think I do.

(LAVETTA goes to stab TABATHA again. She spins out of the way. LAVETTA changes tactics, running to ETHAN. She holds the knife up to his throat.)

LAVETTA
One more word, and I will cut his throat. (TABATHA backs off.) Leave the snow globe now. Take us back to my house. Or I will kill Ethan.

CAT
What’s to stop her from breaking the snow globe and killing us all?

LAVETTA
She would never kill poor Ethan.

(TEDDY sneaks up on LAVETTA.)

LAVETTA
What are you waiting for? Leave the snow globe now or he dies!
(TEDDY knocks the knife out of LAVETTA’s hands.)

TEDDY

No one hurts my best friend!

(LAVETTA struggles, picks up the knife, and cuts off TEDDY’s arm. Stuffing goes everywhere.)

TEDDY

(picking up his arm)

Ouchie! That hurt!

(TABATHA runs to ETHAN while LAVETTA is distracted. She touches him.)

TABATHA

Tara, Clara! Teddy! Come on!

(TARA, CLARA, and TEDDY rush over to TABATHA and ETHAN. They all touch.)

(TABATHA closes her eyes, trying to leave the snow globe.)

(LAVETTA rushes up to them with her knife. TABATHA has her eyes closed and doesn’t see.)

CAT

Tabatha, look out!

(TABATHA opens her eyes just in time. She holds up an arm, knocking the knife out of LAVETTA’s hand.)

(Both TABATHA and LAVETTA reach for the knife. LAVETTA gets the knife and moves to stab TABATHA. TABATHA holds out her hands and uses magic to paralyze her again. She stands up, putting more power behind her spell.)

(LAVETTA is slowly yielding.)

LAVETTA

I just wanted to create a better place to live.

TABATHA

I’m sorry…

(TABATHA moves her arms once more. LAVETTA is frozen.)
CAT
What…did you do to her?

TABATHA
She’s plastic. She’s just a piece in the snow globe now.

CAT
Will she stay like that forever?

TABATHA
I think so. (TABATHA looks at the CAT.) It was the only way to stop her and protect my friends. I can’t believe I was able to…

CAT
You’re a more powerful witch than she is, in the end.

(Beat.)

TABATHA
We’re all leaving. Do you want to come?

CAT
Can you keep the snow globe safe? So I can stay in here?

Yes. Won’t you be bored?

CAT
I’m a cat. I so don’t get bored.

TABATHA
I’m sorry. About Lavetta. I didn’t know what else to…

It’s alright.

TABATHA
Thank you. For earlier, you know. Saving me.

CAT
It’s no problem. (Pause.) Will you do something? (TABATHA nods.) I promised Crow that I’d find his Love and look into her eyes. Will you do that? For him?

TABATHA
Yes. (Pause.) Goodbye, Cat.
(CAT smiles.)

(TABATHA touches ETHAN. TEDDY, TARA, and CLARA all crowd in and touch TABATHA.)

(She closes her eyes. They all leave the snow globe.)
Back Home

(TABATHA is on her bedroom floor holding ETHAN, two dolls, and her teddy bear. The snow globe sits beside them.)

(VERONICA is sitting on TABATHA’s bed. She stands when she sees them.)

VERONICA
Tabatha! Are you alright?

TABATHA
Yes…I…I was using my power in ways I never even thought I could…and the teddy bear! Mom…thank you.

(VERONICA looks at TABATHA. They share a moment.)

VERONICA
What happened to Lavetta?

TABATHA
She’s…plastic now. (TABATHA holds out the snow globe so VERONICA can see.) I didn’t want to kill anyone, you know. It was the only way. (VERONICA hugs TABATHA.) She was evil. But she was still my aunt…your sister…

VERONICA
I once had a sister named Lavetta. She became a different person when she became a witch.

TABATHA
Why? Is that how everyone is?

VERONICA
I used to think so. I used to think practicing magic would make you an evil person.

TABATHA
What do you think now?

VERONICA
I don’t know. Maybe magic only takes who you already are and makes it stronger…

(TABATHA takes off her crystal and hands it to VERONICA.)

TABATHA
Here. I’ll give this back to you. I won’t practice magic…if you don’t want me to.

(VERONICA holds the necklace for a moment and then hands it back to TABATHA.)
VERONICA
Keep it…Just in case.

(ETHAN is coughing, coming to.)

TABATHA
Ethan! Are you okay?

(VERONICA hands TABATHA a bottle.)

VERONICA
Here. Give him the antidote.

Thanks.

I’ll give you two a minute.

(VERONICA exits.)

TABATHA
Ethan? Can you talk?

ETHAN
Tabatha…what happened? Are we still…inside…the snow globe, I mean?

TABATHA
No…I got you out. It’s all over now.

ETHAN
(Sitting up)
Um…what happened?

TABATHA
The witch gave you potion to turn you into a doll. Here, drink this. It’s the antidote. (She hands him the bottle. He drinks.)

ETHAN
I’m starting to feel better. (Pause.) Thank you. For saving me, I mean. For getting me out.

TABATHA
You’re welcome. I just wanted you to be okay, you know.
ETHAN
I really am sorry. For everything. Calling you a loser before…and even before that with Charlie…(he coughs.)

TABATHA
Shhh. It’s okay. Really.

ETHAN
You really are the bravest girl I know. And the smartest, too.

(TABATHA smiles.)

TABATHA
Do you want to go home?

ETHAN
Actually, can I sleep for a little bit? Here?

TABATHA
Yes.

(TABATHA helps ETHAN onto the bed. He starts to drift off. She sits down on the floor beside the bed. She picks up her teddy bear and starts to sew his arm back on. ETHAN sleepily reaches out a hand and takes hers. She sits next to him and holds his hand.)
Epilogue

(TARA and CLARA enter.)

TARA
The snow globe still sits on Tabatha’s shelf—

CLARA
It is said that the cat is still inside.

(We can see the CAT inside of the snow globe sleeping lazily.)

TARA
The sweet cat spends most of her days sleeping.

CLARA
Sometimes she wakes up—

(The CAT wakes up.)

TARA
Stretches and then yawns—

(The CAT stretches and yawns.)

CLARA
And then she simply goes right back to sleep.

TARA
But we wouldn’t really know about it.

CLARA/TARA
We’re just plastic dolls!

(They giggle.)

(Lights dim on the CAT. TABATHA enters.)

CLARA
Tabatha went out to the woods one night.

TARA
She found a sweet crow sitting on a branch—

(TABATHA sees a crow.)
(Baby crows follow the older crow. TABATHA stretches out a hand. One of the baby crows lands on TABATHA’s outstretched hand.)

(TABATHA looks at the crows.)

And somehow, she knew.  

CLARA

She just knew.  

TARA

She still visits the crows every weekend.  

CLARA

She tells them stories about their father.  

TARA

So they’ll never forget how he loved them.

CLARA

(Lights dim on TABATHA. ETHAN enters with his headphones.)

CLARA

And Ethan and Tabatha were best friends—  

(TABATHA enters with a book bag. ETHAN takes off his headphones. She stumbles and falls and books spill. We can hear laughter from off stage. ETHAN helps her up and helps her pick up the books. TABATHA waves her arms subtly, and we can hear the bully voice from off stage as he falls down. ETHAN smiles at TABATHA and high fives her.)

TARA

Tabatha was never picked on again.

CLARA

And the two friends were always together—  

TARA

Sweet Ethan went to live with his father—  

CLARA

Tabatha would come over after school!  

TARA

He would play her a song on piano—
CLARA
And she would read him her lovely stories!

TARA
And then they would go for walks after school together—

CLARA
But they’d never go to those woods again!

(TARA and CLARA giggle.)

(Lights dim on ETHAN and TABATHA.)

(VERONICA enters TABATHA’s bedroom. The actual dolls sit on TABATHA’s bed.)

TARA
Now we are just dolls—

CLARA
We cannot walk or talk or dance or sing—

(VERONICA sees the dolls. She sits on the bed and picks them up.)

TARA
But now we can make people so happy!

(VERONICA smiles at the dolls.)

(Lights dim on VERONICA.)

CLARA
We will always remember Lavetta.

TARA
Except for the parts she made us forget!

(They giggle.)

(TABATHA enters the bedroom.)

TARA
And Tabatha will keep the snow globe safe—

CLARA
Do you think one day she’ll make it her world?
TARA

Who can say for sure?

(TABATHA picks up the snow globe and looks at it.)

TARA/CLARA

Who can say for sure?

(They giggle.)

(TABATHA smiles.)

(Lights out.)

(End of play.)
VITA

Sara Crawford is a playwright from Kennesaw, Georgia. She received her BA in English from Kennesaw State University in 2008. She participated in the Low Residency Creative Writing Workshop at the University of New Orleans from 2010 to 2012, including the programs in San Miguel de Allende in Mexico in 2010 and Edinburgh in Scotland in 2012.