

Breaking Borders

By: Ellen To

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Grade: 10

- Roles:
 - Lee Hyun Young - Character A
 - Kwon Ji Yong - Character B
 - Lee Geun Suk - Mother of Character A
 - Jo Yoona - She is also the 23 year old defector that gets caught.
 - Kwon Min Yi - Mother of Character B
 - Also plays defector in Scene 4 (Boarding the Van)
 - Dong Dong - Youngest of the defectors (Age 7)
 - Changed to a girl!
 - Smuggler #1: Bus Driver
 - Also plays Smuggler #4: Van - Dosing off
 - Smuggler #2: Informer in the bus
 - Also plays Smuggler #5: Hike
 - Smuggler #3: Train to Drive to the jungle border.
 - Also plays Smuggler #6: River Cross
 - Official #1: Train
 - Also plays Official #6: Jungle
 - Also plays Official #13: South Korean Embassy
 - Official #2: Train
 - Also plays Official #7: Jungle
 - Also plays Official #14: South Korean Embassy
 - Official #3:
 - Also plays Official #8: Jungle
 - Also plays Official #10: River Cross Patrol
 - Official #4:
 - Also plays Official #9: Jungle
 - Also plays Official #11: River Cross Patrol
 - Official #5: Jungle
 - Also plays Official #12: RC Patrol
 - Dong Dong's mom

Act 1, Scene 1: Packing / Diary Entries

The scene starts off with both Hyun and JiYong on the stage but doing their own thing. They focus on packing their bags for their long journey. Hyun goes first to read her diary entry as she is sitting on her floor next to her opened bag of clothes. There is also clothes scattered everywhere. After Hyun is done her journal entry, JiYong goes next.

HYUN:

Dear Diary,

This is going to be one of many more entries to come. I'm leaving my omma[mother] and Yong Bae oppa [brother] to for fill my dream of becoming a gansu. There's no opportunities here in North

Korea. The general won't allow singing. I have to say my goodbyes. I know what will happen if I get caught trying to leave with the other defectives. They beat you, ask you "has your life been miserable enough? Why do you shame your own kind? Why shame of leader?", beat you again until you are disorientated emotionally and physically. You think to yourself: "I'm going to die if I don't confess". But you have to try super hard to pull through. KEEP THINKING YOU'LL PULL THROUGH. They ask you "were you trying to leave and escape North Korea?". Say NO until the end! My aunt was caught. She's still in the hospital and seeing a doctor every day for the next few years. It's a good thing she didn't get sold off to some man in China. She's over 35 so she's worth no more than a dog to those men. She was raped by each and every official that would walk by her. She was beaten if she would refuse. My uncle was the one that brought her back home and took her into the hospital. I pray that I make a safe journey there. I'm packing my bags and leaving no room for anything to slide around in case we need to run. WHEN I get there, the only thing I'll do is worry about getting my mom and brother over. I'm wearing a heavy jacket since it's still Spring. What else? I'll write back soon diary. Day[yes], I will! For now, I have to pack you away and say my goodbyes.

~ Unnie Fighting!

(She holds up her fist and make a brave face)

Lee Hyun Young unnie [young sister]

(Now it is JiYong's Turn. Hyun continues to pack. Ji Yong is cleaning and organizing his bag. He goes over to his desk to pack his camera. He sits to clean out his three camera lenses.)

JİYONG'S MOM:

(she screams from another room close by)

Ji Yong, don't forget to do your diary entry for me. You're about to leave soon. The missionary just called and the vans were sent out and picked up some people. Okay?

JİYONG:

(Still gazing and playing with his camera but screams)

okay MOM!!!

(talks to himself)

(sighs)

I'll be the first North Korean to document this trip. It'll be amazing but I can't get caught. who knows what they'll do to me. Wait....what if I do if they catch the me and bring me to the General. Oh, I'll be so honored to meet the General. But wait if they catch me, I hear they cut you eyes out and feed it to the dogs. I don't know....OH CRAP. I gotta get started on this journal...

Hello Shit hole I call a Journal.....

(thinks to himself but also says out loud)

"Wait no my mom will see this"

(violently - crosses it out-)

My mom wants a better life for me as an artist so I'm going to South Korea. She wants me to take pictures secretly of everything so I don't forget my experience and lose who I am. But I don't care. I will miss her and I know I won't trust anyone along the way which is fine because all I need to do is care for myself and that's it. I will work to get enough won for her to be smuggled over by plane. I might just record myself talking if I get the chance. You know...as like a video diary. That'd be cool or write down what we did that day. Saranghaeyo omma. Cam sah me dah for everything. [I love you mommy, Thank you for everything.] I have to pack. We leave bright and early tomorrow. We'll meet again shit- I mean.... journal.

~ Kwon Ji Yong bae

HYUN:

Yeah omma? Yeah I'm pojang and ready to leave!

(Hyun starts to run around the room with the bag to throw clothes into the bag. Hyun can hear her mom yelling from another room. JiYong can hear his mom too.)

HYUN AND JIYONG:

I'm leaving now omma.

(Both Hyun and JiYong share a long and teary hug with mom)

HYUN'S MOM:

You know you leave soon, dear. Hurry up, seo-dul-leo. Ayyeeeee, I told you not to pack so late. You have the brain of a dway-jee! Hard headed idiot!

(Hyun runs into the room to say her goodbyes to her mom. JiYong meets his mom in his room too.)

JIYONG:

Yeah omma? Yeah I'm pojang and ready to leave!

HYUN:

Don't you mean fox? Since I'm cunning?

(Hyun winks at her mom)

HYUN AND JIYONG:

(Hyun and JiYong both say at the same time.)

Okay omma, I'm all set. Sah-rang-hae-yo.

HYUN'S MOM:

Sah-rang-hae hyunie. Be safe. Don't talk to the other defectors. Don't help them. Mind your own business. Yeogi je-on-hwai- jee-mon, don't call me until you are safe and in South Korea. Don't use the phone anywhere else. Got it? They can not track it if you are captured. Don't forget about me or your brother. Keep us in your heart and mind.

(Hyun's mom hands her a phone that is off and sighs)

HYUN'S MOM:

Please be safe. I'll love you. I'll pray for you throughout your journey. We won't be apart soon hunnie. Well you and your brother will be first, then me.

JYONG'S MOM:

Be safe. I love you. Saranghae. Watch that smart mouth of yours.....Bye Bye Ji Yong. I want you to call me. I wanted to go with you but you know we don't have enough won for us to go. I'll see you as soon as the boss pays me my wage. Okay?

(Hyun starts to cry. JiYong starts to tear and tries his hardest to hide it.)

HYUN'S MOM:

Don't cry hunnie. Don't you're old enough to go and follow what you want. I can't give that to you while you are hear in this country. Have a safe journey. Nal wee-hay nol-ael-eul.

(Hyun sings one last time. Song of IU – Wind Flower starts to play.)

JY'S MOM:

Here take this. pray with it and have the people you cherish pray along side you for a safe journey.

(JY's mom attaches a silver cross around his neck and kisses her hand and touches his cross and cheek.)

HYUN:

Good bye omma. I love you. Oh where is Hee-chung? I'll see you and sing my heart out for you in South Korea! Okay, omma?

HYUN'S MOM:

(Hyun's mom points into a direction off stage.)

He's sleeping. He's bummed that you are leaving so he can't handle it. He's only six. Let him ease up.

HYUN:

Okay, omma, tell him I give him lots of love. That pudgy little boy. Tell him I'll find him a girlfriend in the South and some yummy food. I'm heading out now.

BOTH MOTHERS:

(They say it together.)

OKay hunny, God boja.

(JiYong and Hyun walks out of the door as the lights dim on the stage.)

JİYONG:

Bye. Saranghae omma. God boja.

BOTH MOTHERS:

Yes, We'll see eachother soon.

(Lights dim)

Act 1, Scene 2: Bus Ride

Setting: The crew are in a private bumpy bus ride as the smuggler is telling them what to do. There is another grouchy smuggler driving the bus. The seating arrangement is with Hyun sitting in the front of JiYong. Dong Dong gets up from her other seat and throws her stuff on the floor. She sits next to JiYong. Ji Yong looks down at him with one eye. There is the sound of the bus in the background as the smuggler speaks. This scene does not need a bus. The scene can be modified to have to bus chairs, a wheel, clutch, and people.

JİYONG:

May I help you?

DONG DONG:

Anh-nee-ha-say-yo, how are you on this lovely day to freedom?!

(Dong Dong gives the Smuggler a arrogant smile)

SMUGGLER:

(Anger rushes through the Smuggler's face. He drops his papers and slowly but tensely picks up his hand and is about to slap Dong Dong.)

What? Do you want me to teach you respect?

(Dong Dong covers her face.)

DEFECTOR JO YOONA:

STOP! That is enough. Both of you!

(The smuggler stops and realizes what he is doing and controls himself. Jo Yoona looks at Dong Dong.)

DEFECTOR JO YOONA:

Apologize. Now.

(Dong Dong waves his hand and apologizes.)

DONG DONG:

jo-song-ha-b-nida.

(Dong Dong turns to look at Jo Yoona.)

DONG DONG:

You really saved my butt. He looked vicious.

DEFECTOR JO YOONA:

Just keep your trap shut and no one will *kill* you.

(Jo Yoona winks at Dong Dong.)

SMUGGLER:

An-yay, kid just shut up! I'm telling you guys the rules for the train before we get off this dirt road.

SMUGGLER:

Okay so if anything goes wrong, don't mention the others like a Gumiho would. Don't stick together. I will assign you roles as you get off the bus. Stick with your groups or stick by yourself. If any officials come by then act like you are asleep or hide somewhere or leave your cabin. Do not get caught and try to lie. Don't be so fearful. Own your role as a citizen. Don't forget the walls have ears! We are about to get off. Also, most officials will have a weapon so don't be incompetent and make a run for it. Also, I almost forgot the most important thing...NO CAMERAS or digital things. If you're seen with that...you're sure as hell going to hell. So trash them now.

(Smuggler points to Ji Yong.)

Hey...kid..Got it? I saw you with a recorder earlier...TRASH IT. If that thing goes off we're all screwed. Or if the officials find it....well let's just say you'll have a long ride home.

(JiYong trashes his recorder with regret and secretly hides his cameras in his bags.)

You guys all got it?

DEFECTORS:

(In sync)

YES SIR!

SMUGGLER:

Damn, you guys really are from North Korea. Oh and ladies you aren't worth much here so be careful if you don't wanna be sold off to some sex addict or sold off as a slave.

DONG DONG:

SOOOO....would the bus have ears too? I'm no slave!

(Dong Dong gives the smuggler a cheesy look as the bus driver laughs and JiYong covers his face with embarrassment.)

SMUGGLER:

Yeah but you're a girl and they like girls like you.... Young and ignorant to everything including their bodies...Obviously, this kid can't be alone so we have to assign him "*parents*". You and You.

(points to Hyun and Ji yong)

You two will watch the kid throughout the trip as if she is your own. Got it. No arguments. Are there any more baby defectors? No? Okay. The rest of you are on your own.

DONG DONG:

YES! I finally have an omma and an oppa! Thank smuggler dude... I'll pray for you!

HYUN:

Don't you already have one? Why are you traveling alone? No child should ever travel alone.

DONG DONG:

My sister convinced me to come over and paid for my trip. She says the leader didn't starve with us and stuff but I don't believe her but recently my parents disappeared after my dad was doing graffiti. And my mom left me when I was young. All I have left is my nuna left.

JİYONG

That's tough stuff kid. Stick with me and her and you'll be fine. I'm Kwon Ji Yong by the way.

HYUN:

I'm Lee Hyun Young.

DONG DONG:

Oh, I'm Dong Dong. Everyone calls me that. ARE WE STOPPING!?

HYUN:

(to Ji Yong about the other defectors. Hyun taps on Ji Yong's shoulder and makes him look around the bus. Hyun and Ji Yong looks around.)

Look at all of their faces Ji Yong. Freedom isn't far from them. Their eyes are just like ours. Close to our freedoms and dreams.

(Bus stops. Engine sounds stop.)

SMUGGLER BUS DRIVER:

Alright, EVERYONE OFF. The ten hour bus ride is done and over with. Get to the train to meet your next smuggler!

*(All of the defectors run to the windows of the bus. There is a moment of 'wow's and 'oooo's.)
(Lights Dim)*

Act 1, Scene 3: Train Scene

Setting: The group is sitting on a train where there are always many officials. Hyun is in the room with Dong Dong cleaning her face from their hike to the train. This is day 3 of their three day rain ride. The

train ride is pretty rocky. For this scene, this is no train needed, there can just be a small bed room like room with a sink, beds, and closet.

HYUN:

Stop moving. You have all of this dirt on you! You're getting it on me Dong Dong! We're about to get off! DONG DONG. Stop.

(Hyun spits the dirt out of her mouth. The train shifts making all of the people in the train to shift. The train's horns are heard. And there is the engine in the background.)

DONG DONG:

(Acts as if she has a sugar rush, bouncing up and down.)

I'm sorry, I'm just too excited. I can't wait to see my omma. She's making ko-be the day I arrive. I love ko-be. And she has a dog. *(Sighs)* I can't wait until we can finally laugh and talk and be as loud as we want. Why aren't you excited, Hyun Young nuna? Plus, we've been on this damn bus for a whole two and a half days. We finally get to get out of these rooms. We can finally get off. Aren't you happy? I hear we get to hike up some mountains. It's okay if you faint. my nuna taught me to always bite someone's arm for them to wake up. And...I finally feel like I'm in a family. Even if... you know.... Ji Yong won't admit to it. We are. But I hate the fact that we had to stay on this smelly old train for so long. I wonder if we could've gotten better tickets. Cheap smugglers.

HYUN:

I'm sure I won't faint. And yes, I will be happy but I'm worried about you and Ji Yong. We've spent so much time together these past two days and we've learned each other's dreams and stories. What will happen if we all don't make it? Look at me...I'm asking advice from an eight year old. You remind me of my brother, Dong Dong, you guys are so innocent to reality. Hey...don't say that about the smugglers...you know with our fake passports...we can't do much. Ha-toe-ka-jo?

DONG DONG:

I'll tell you what to do. You need to---

(Dong Dong is cut off because Hyun puts her hand over her mouth to stop her. She hears an Official.) (muffles her talk)

OFFICIAL #1:

(shouts)

DID YOU CHECK OVER HERE YET!? Officer Kun! DID YOU?

(There is suddenly a muttering sound and the whole cabin room is quiet. Hyung Young and Dong Dong look at each other in pure fear and Hyung Young puts one finger over her mouth to tell

Dong Dong to be quiet. Fear starts to make its way into Dong Dong's eyes.)

OFFICIAL #2:

Didn't you say you heard talking over here?

OFFICIAL #1:

Day [Yes]. It came from over here.

OFFICIAL #2:

Well....check the cabins.

(Doors start to bang and voices are heard. When one of the officials knock on Hyun's door. It is silent. Hyun and Dong Dong shake in fear and quickly hide in the closet. Hyun hold Dong Dong tightly to try to calm her down.)

OFFICIAL #2:

OPEN UP. Cabin CHECK!

(A few knocks later, there is a knock on Hyun's door. Official #2 runs to Official #1.)

OFFICIAL #1:

Kun! Quick, I found a defector over here. A nice one too. She looks lost. Unnie where are you from?

OFFICIAL #2:

(stops his knocking)

You're right. A North Korean baby...aren't cha? How much do you think she'd go for? How old are you
hmm?

DEFECTOR JO YOONA:

twuh-twuh-twenty-three...sir. But but but...I'm not a defector. I work in the fields in Pyongyang, South
Korea.

OFFICIAL #1:

Bold move, you're so young. How about you come back with us. Well, you don't have a passport of
anything with you, just some warm clothes. You won't need them where you're going sweetie! Let's go
find you a nice husband. How much you think she'd go for?

OFFICIAL #2:

I don't know maybe she's worth a cow? Maybe less? I don't know but that ha-jee-mah we got last week was around forty so she was worth a dog.

DEFECTOR JO YOONA:

But, I'm not! I told you where I work and where I am from!

OFFICIAL #2:

Oh yeah! Day Day Day.....that was the old hag that no one wanted. Alright, we're getting paid today, dong-ya-say.

OFFICIAL #1:

Wait let's have some fun first. Oh and Pyongyang is the capital in North Korea. Not South. You should know that and there are rarely any farmers there as pretty as you in South Korea.

(Official #1 winks and laughs)

(Screaming is heard down the hallway of the captured defector. She is drag in some where and there is the sound of a slamming door. Hyung Young and Dong Dong breathe a sigh of relief and get out of the closet. They look at each other as Hyung continues to clean Dong Dong's face)

HYUN:

(Whispers:)

Come here let me get the rest of this. Ji Yong should be coming back anytime now with the with the food.

(Hyun continues to clean her face. Five minutes later, when everything is calm, Hyun starts to pack up her stuff. The trains engine is heard. Knocking is heard at the door.)

knock knock knock

(Hyun's eyes become wide open and she shoo's Dong Dong into the closet.)

knock knock knock

JİYONG:

Hyun? You there?

HYUN:

(sighs)

Oh. Yeah hold on.

(Hyun opens the door for Ji Yong. He is holding all of the food.)

JİYONG:

We're almost there so eat up. Where's Dong Dong?

DONG DONG:

(Struggles to get out of the closet.)

In here, pleh...nuna put me in here so I wouldn't be found by....well.... you...

(Ji Yong looks confused.)

DONG DONG:

She thought you were an official or something...

(Ji Yong looks confused.)

HYUN:

We heard some officials take away a defector and it wasn't pretty. Just hearing it...I don't want to talk about it.

JİYONG:

It's fine, Hyun....Calm down. We are about to get off.

(Jiyong hands Dong Dong and Hyung the food They all take a bite quickly and store away the food as the Smuggler comes in.)

VOICE OVER:

Shenyong, China to Beijing, China. All boarders that should be off must get off. We are in Beijing, China. Have a safe journey and respect the laws. Joy geen!

SMUGGLER:

Time to get off the train. You have ten seconds. Meet at the raunji when you are set.

DONG DONG:

Come-sah-me-da!!!

SMUGGLER::

You're welcome....hurry up.

(Lights Dim)

Act 1, Scene 4: Boarding the Van:

Setting: Ji Yong is listening to a CD Player and seems to be liking what he is hearing. Hyun is holding Dong Dong's shoulders as the defectors board yet another bus to go to the safe house before going to the jungle borders of Laos. It is an eight hour drive. They finally board the Van. Dong Dong runs to the back seat where she is met by Hyun and JiYong. IU - Wind Flower is playing. The van starts and it is a bumpy ride. This scene does not need a bus. The scene can be modified to have to van chairs, a wheel, clutch, people, and seat belts.

(Ji Yong is bobbing his head. IU - Wind Flower is playing.)

SMUGGLER:

We are going to the Border of Laos. There you will hike to the safe house for the next smuggler. I hear he is an old hag so careful with him. They won't be as nice as me. Alright I'm gonna start the van now.

HYUN:

What on earth are you listening too?

(Ji Yong is bobbing his head. IU - Wind Flower is playing.)

HYUN:

JYONG!

DEFECTOR:

Quite down, we're trying to sleep! Arrogant kids.

(Hyun pulls one earphone out and tries the conversation one more time. IU - Wind Flower is playing but lightly..)

HYUN:

What are you listening too?

JIIYONG:

Nothing.....

(Ji Yong has a guilty look on his face. Hyun fights Ji Yong to get the CD Player. IU - Wind Flower is still playing. After half a minute later, she looks down to the eject button and takes out the CD. The song ends. She gets one stare and gives Ji Yong an evil look.)

HYUN:

You....DIDN'T

(Hyun is angry.)

DEFECTOR:

SHUT UP.

HYUN:

Ji Yong....

(punches his arm.)

I can't believe you heard me sing. Ugh. That wasn't even a good song. It was just a song I found on that South Korean song book thing. You know...cause we can't sing and find stuff online. I can't believe you.

JIIYONG:

You're really good. No wonder your mom wants you to leave first. There are so many record labels that would sign to you. You know that. Like if I was a record label. I would sign to you. There's YG Entertainment, SM, CUBE. You need you....I'll take you. The first thing we'll do after we're settled. that's a promise. Okay?

HYUN:

Ugh.....I guess. You loser! I can't believe you've been listening to me sing for so long. I didn't even notice.

JIIYONG:

Can I at least finish? We have another seven and a half hours left. You need to let me. You're amazing, Hyun. Nah me dio [trust me].

HYUN:

Fine. I'm gonna get some sleep with Dong Dong. Come on Dong Dong.

(Hyun pulls on Dong Dong to see that she is already asleep and snoring. Ji Yong and Hyun share a laugh.)

(Lights Dim)

Act 2, Scene 1: Hike to the Safe House:

Setting: The Defectors on are the edge of the highway with their bags ready. (Jungle sounds playing in the background. Some of the defectors slap bugs off of their sweaty shiny skin.

(Lights come on.)

SMUGGLER:

We're almost there. We're almost there.

HYUN:

He's been saying that for the past...

(Hyun checks her watch:)

EIGHT HOURS!

SMUGGLER:

What did you say...you wanna be singer?

HYUN:

(She intentionally says in a rude way:)

Nothing.

JIIYONG:

Ignore him....none of these smugglers ever showed us any respect so I doubt he would. We're just on our way to freedom... la...la....la....laaaaa....

(Ji Yong winks to Hyun as he waves his hands around.)

DONG DONG:

Ji Yong hyun, leave the singing to nuna. You sound like the time the general started speaking into the mic and it went crazy and screeched at him. And then the general told us that it was a set up from the U.....S.....M?

HYUN:

You mean U.S.A?

DONG DONG:

Day, that. He said they tried to listen to our conversations but he broke the bug that was sending it wall over. He saved our lives.

JIYONG:

I'm sure he did.

HYUN:

You know that's not true right?

JIYONG:

Too an extent. I believe almost anything he says because it's just out of respect....I guess. Like I still think to this day that if I get caught and brought to him,

(JiYong starts to act it out)

I'd gracefully bow and address him as out all greatfu--

(Hyun slaps him in the back of the head)

HYUN:

You have a brain of a gan-gah-chi! Man's best friend aren't you? You listen to all of the shit he tells you and then at one command, you sit, say, speak, and roll over.

DONG DONG:

NUNA, don't say strong words!

JIYONG:

I didn't mean to get you mad...I was just--

(JiYong holds his hands up in defense.)

HYUN:

Just WHAT? You know what...it's fine. okay...I don't want to talk about him anymore. Ha to ka jo? You guys don't even know what the missionaries around here say about him. What other places say about

him....You guys can let stupidity rule your minds.

JİYONG:

I guess you'll have to tell me one day. But I have to tell you that I still do have respect for the leader that fought for us. Even though I'm leaving him.

HYUN:

Okay. JiYong.

(Hyun walks ahead.)

SMUGGLER:

I don't give a damn thing about what you guys have. Hurry the hell up.
(The smuggler walks off stage. JiYong, Hyun, and Dong Dong stop.)

DONG DONG:

Someone woke up on the wrong side of the highway today...keke.

HYUN:

You can say that again.

(JiYong walks ahead.)

JİYONG:

Come on guys...he's gonna just keep bitching or something.

(JiYong pulls out his camera. He takes a quick snap.)

HYUN:

JİYONG! you still have that? He told you to get rid of it.
(Hyun hits the back of her neck because of bugs.)
You're going to get slaughtered.

JİYONG:

(Puts it away.)

I trust that you guys won't say anything to him.

DONG DONG:

(Skips along side JiYong as they walk.)

I won't. You're my oppa...remember?

HYUN:

(Rolls her eyes.)

Fine. I don't understand you sometimes.

JİYONG:

But you're the one who understands me the most here.

(Winks and runs off stage with Dong Dong. Hyun follows.)

(Lights dim.)

Act 2, Scene 2: 20 Hour Bus Ride:

Setting: The smuggler is sleeping while driving. Every one awakens after the driver swerves off and on the rode. A few defectors wake him up and they take turns staying up and directing the driver but he is too stubborn to give up the steering wheel. It is a 20 hour bus ride. They are 200 miles from the long hike. Dong Dong tries very hard to wake up Hyun. JiYong is sleeping. This scene does not need a bus. The scene can be modified to have to bus chairs, a wheel, clutch, and people.

DONG DONG:

Nuna, nuna, wake up! We're all going to die!

HYUN:

What what?

(Hyun wakes up. The van continues to swerve. The defectors scream in fear. A defector pushes the sleeping smuggler onto the floor and takes the wheel.)

DRIVING DEFECTOR:

Okay, We're fine for now.

(The smuggler wakes up. He muffles, then cleans his face of drool.)

SMUGGLER:

The hell? Get out of here! Who do you think you are?

(Grabs the defector by the back of the neck and throws him into the back seat of the bus.)

DONG DONG:

You should have seen it nuna, he didn't even want to give up the wheel. It was awful. I woke up JiYong and he just went back to sleep. Useless dokay.

HYUN:

I don't know what to say Dong Dong. I'm still half asleep.

(Driver swerves.)

HYUN:

NEVERMIND! I'm awake.

DONG DONG:

I thought so.

HYUN:

Where are we?

(Hyun looks outside of the window.)

DONG DONG:

We're still on the dirt road. We've been on the same rode for who knows how long.

(Lights dim.)

Act 2, Scene 3: Ji Yong's camera is gone!

Setting: They are still on the bus when the smuggler spots Ji Yong's camera and is starting to give him a speech. They are still on the 20-hour bus ride. They are about to get off. Jiyong starts the scene trying to look for his camera. Hyun is trying to wake up JiYong.

JİYONG:

Hyun, have you seen my camera?

HYUN:

No, but Dong Dong won't get up. Do you think the journey is getting to her?

JİYONG:

Well...how tough could she really be? She's brave but bravery doesn't come with strength...

(Fiddles around his bag some more...then he yells in a whisper)

ARE YOU SURE YOU HAVEN'T SEEN MY CAMERA?

HYUN:

First off, do not yell at me for something you lost. Second, did you check all of your pockets? Third, can we worry about Dong Dong?

(Dong Dong wakes up.)

HYUN:

Oh sing-yay-ong kkeusigo [never mind]. I got her to wake up anyo come-sah-me-dah [no thanks to you].

DONG DONG:

What's going on? Oh, I don't feel so good. Hyun...

HYUN:

You're burning up, unnie. How do you feel? We're about to get off soon so are you ready to start hiking for a bit? We'll have to hike until we find a safe place to camp and then we'll see what happens next.

JİYONG:

GOD DAMN, where is my camera?

HYUN:

Why are you spazzing out? You know you have another one you told me to keep right? I have another one. Idiot.

JİYONG:

That's the one I was looking for! Thank Hyun. I have barely been taking pictures. I have to take pictures. Again.

(Jiyong does a cheesy smile to Hyun and the camera.)

DONG DONG:

Can I take a picture too?

HYUN:

Weren't you just sick?!

DONG DONG:

Yes, but after the picture. I will take my medicine.

HYUN:

(Hyun looks into her bag and rustles through it.)

I don't think I have anymore. God damn.

DONG DONG:

WATCH IT!

HYUN:

Sorry. We just need to get you well again.

DEFECTOR:

(A defector taps Hyun on the shoulder.)

Excuse me? Do you need some uihag? I have some pills with me. But I don't know if you can give her two.

HYUN:

We'll try one. Thank you. Hopefully, her body will accept this. Dong Dong, you have to take this or you'll get worse.

DONG DONG:

I....well... I don't know how to take capsules.

(Hyun takes JiYong's camera and smashes the pill in her hand with the camera.)

HYUN:

Here, you're fine now. Open.

DONG DONG:

AHHHHHHH!

(Hyun places the broken pieces in Dong Dong's mouth and hands her a water bottle.)

SMUGGLER:

All right!

(Smuggler stretches. Ji Yong takes his camera and sticks it in his bag. They all start paying attention to what the smuggler is saying.)

SMUGGLER:

Okay you guys know the drill. Nightfall is coming upon us quickly so that means we have to get out there and set up camp. I've taken the liberty of driving out there so all you have to do is step out and do as I say. Men are in charge of firewood and if you care...food. Uh, I have tents but you guys have to buy them. They're not free assholes so don't ask. The tent is 100 won. No won? You guys can share I guess. Women set up the tents. Look...

(Smuggler says sarcastically)

We're one big happy family.

(Smuggler says with all seriousness.)

All right OUT OUT OUT! Do I have to escort you little pansies?!

(The defectors leave the bus. The men went to gather firewood or pay the smuggler for the tent. The women went to pay the smuggler for the tents. Hyun paid for the tent.)

HYUN:

Dong Dong, come get the tent with me. We're going to need to set it up fast!

SMUGGLER:

Who wants to set up my tent?

(The defectors turn their backs to him.)

SMUGGLER:

Come on! You guys are lucky you aren't sleeping on leeches and mold for the rest of the night! Ungrateful assholes. Fine. I'll just assign people to do it for me then. You and you!

(The smuggler points to a pair of defectors and makes them fix their tent. They agreed and went back to work.)

JİYONG:

Nan i-jee gaya hae [I have to go now]! I have to get wood. I'll be back.

(JiYong winks at them and turns off. Hyun and Dong Dong set up the tent.)

HYUN:

Take your time! I don't want to have to set up another tent. I want to get some sleep. This tent is so slimy and small. It's basically a stick and piece of cloth. This was not worth all of that won.

DONG DONG:

I HAVE WON. Do you need some?

(Dong Dong then pulls out her wallet and some money falls out.)

HYUN:

Dong DONG! Put it away. When I need it I will ask. You are helpless right now! Don't go around waving

your won in front of these won hungry people. They will rob you of it. Okay?

DONG DONG:

Okay nuna. I'm sorry.

(Hyun pats her on the head.)

HYUN:

It's okay. Hurry up. I just want you to help me for now.

(Jiyong and other defectors come back and go to their tents.)

JİYONG:

I'm back. Everyone is back.

JİYONG:

(JiYong whispers to Hyun and Dong Dong...)

I bought a recorder.

DONG DONG:

What's that?

JİYONG:

You know what the white aliens would hold back in North Korea? The ones the general told us never to talk to?

DONG DONG:

Oh okay. Can I use it?

JİYONG:

Yes.

(Looks around.)

I don't know how this guy expects us to find dry wood and food in the middle of the woods. Idiots! Dwaeksi meoli!

SMUGGLER:

GET TO SLEEP ALL OF YOU. No one eats tonight.

DONG DONG:

But you said we would eat if we got food. He got us food!

SMUGGLER:

WHAT? You getting smart with me? You know what I can do to you while everyone sleeps?! Here's a hint...

(The smuggler picks up his hand and is about to slap him when JiYong steps in.)

SMUGGLER:

Don't you touch me you mongrel!

(The smuggler rips his hand out of JiYong's grip.)

JİYONG:

That's enough. She didn't know what she was saying. No need to threaten her. She's just a kid.

SMUGGLER:

I wasn't threatening! EVERYONE. Sleep! Now.

(The smuggler and defector get into the tents. JiYong, Hyun, and Dong Dong leave and hike on their own.)

HYUN:

Where are we going?

JİYONG:

We're going to record!

DONG DONG:

Are we allowed too?

JİYONG:

No, but I want too.

DONG DONG:

Okay!

HYUN:

Idiots.

JİYONG:

Okay, I think we are far enough so that no one will hear us.

HYUN:

Just start it!

JİYONG:

JİYONG, July 28th, 2012. Today, we are getting ready to sleep. This journey has been long and hard. The smugglers treat you worse than the officials. I could say the only difference is.... well, they are paid to take us over. Other than that they are the devil's children. We haven't done much: just hiked, ate dirt, hiked, drank dirt, hiked, and so on. The only thing keeping me going strong is the family I've made coming here.

(JiYong looks at Hyun and Dong Dong and smiles. JiYong continues to talk as Dong Dong and Hyun continue the conversation.)

DONG DONG:

Hyun, he's talking about us! He's talking about—

HYUN:

US, I know.

DONG DONG:

Oh okay. I was just saying.

JİYONG:

Anyway, privacy is a big issue too. Anyone who doesn't know you doesn't respect your privacy! It's hard to do anything with someone always following you but I would too...I guess. One person's mistake can cost the whole group the journey or worse, their life. What else can we talk about?

HYUN:

Won! It's hard to get.

JİYONG:

Oh yes, won has been a big issue. In the supply list, no one told us how much the smugglers would charge us for the littlest things such as shelter. The littler things that are needed either are not here or are gone. I've lost my camera, which is taking a big toll on me and this recorder is another thing to track everything. Until the next recording, I am JiYong...

DONG DONG:

Dong Dong!

JİYONG:

DONG DONG. And Hyun.

(JiYong stops the recorder.)

JİYONG:

Lets hurry back.

(Lights dim.)

Act 2, Scene 4: Ji Yong Leaving?

Setting: The scene starts off with Ji Yong wanting to leave and Hyun prevent and killing that thought. There are crickets in the background. This scene has a few tents, fire, and sleeping people. JiYong wakes up Hyun to talk.

SMUGGLER:

Everyone is asleep but you two. Fix that you idiots.

HYUN:

(Hand on Ji Yong's shoulder.)

Ji Yong, just stop it. We are stupidly taught that people around us are bad. The North Korean propaganda says that N.Korea is heaven on Earth, then why are people leaving?

(sighs)

JİYONG:

(readjusts his shoulder so her hand falls off of his shoulder.)

I know but I just don't want to leave. I want to stay to live my life to serve the General. He's done so

much for us. Yet the laws won't allow us to follow our dreams. It just isn't fair. I've already lost most of my cameras and recorders. I have one left. That's not enough to keep all of the pictures. You keep it for me...okay?

(JiYong hands Hyun his camera.)

HYUN:

(Looks at Ji Yong in the eyes)

Okay but...What has he done for us? Watch our families and friends starve and die one by one. Well that's a lot. We can run away together. And you would leave that chance? If you live in the South, then your mom and sister have a better chance of coming over. Why can't you see that?

(pokes Ji Yong)

Ji Yong? Did you fall asleep?

JİYONG:

(muffles and adjusts the way he is sitting.)

NO, I'm imagining what would happen. See if I go back, I can be fine.

HYUN:

What would you be going back too? You don't even have a car, no one in your village does. You have a brain of a mal (*horse*). You know that? We can bring you to the abuse he gives us but you'll keep taking it until you die. And what job will you have? Oh I know...you'll be pruning shrubs and dusting the empty lifeless roads that no one is allowed to walk on. You'll die of the mental work or starvation.

(Hyun is acting like a know it all.)

Dangsin-i geugeos-eul algo.

JİYONG:

Oh really now?

HYUN:

(Punches him in the arm playfully)

Don't get those stupid thoughts of leaving or else....

SMUGGLER:

Shut up you bastards. Get some sleep. There's a twenty mile hike tomorrow with or without you. Take after the little one and sleep.

(mutters)

Idiots. I'm smuggling idiots.

(JiYong and Hyun start to whisper)

JİYONG:

(Takes off his necklace of a cross)

Hyun, I want you to have this. I feel like something bad will happen. Pray for me and you and Dong Dong for a safe journey and I'll stay as long as I see you praying for us.

HYUN:

(Has second thoughts about taking his cross but takes it anyways and holds it tight as she starts the first of many prayers.)

Okay. I won't let you down!

JİYONG:

I know you won't.

(JiYong winks at Hyun.)

HYUN:

(Hyun closes her eyes.)

Hananim-eul gippeu sige [Please God,], allow us to have a safe journey and bless us with your luck and wisdom along the way.

(Hyun opens her eyes.)

JİYONG:

That's my girl.

(Hyun smiles at the thought of being JiYong's girl and being safe.)

SMUGGLER:

Shut-the-hell-up.

(The smuggler then mutters to himself:)

Damn bastards...they always think they can do whatever the hell they want to.

(JiYong and Hyun start to laugh and then close their eyes.)

(Lights dim.)

Act 2 Scene 5: Long Hike through Laos and Thailand:

Setting: They are in the jungle with no water, food, or energy. All of the defectors are tired and exhausted. Dong Dong faints in this scene and Hyun carries her off and on throughout the whole thing. For this scene, there can be little bumps and hills for the cast to climb over and around. There is a rain forest track playing in the background.

SMUGGLER:

Stay close! No one stay behind that girl!

HYUN:

Dong Dong is soo heavy. We've hardly been eating and here she looks...she looks so fat!

JİYONG:

I haven't been able to eat a lot so I've been giving it to her. She's a growing girl, Hyun. You can't starve kids.

SMUGGLER:

What? You babies hungry? There's some weeds and river water up ahead. It'll be like a buffet to you idiots.

HYUN:

Well if you fed us, we wouldn't have this problem.

SMUGGLER:

And yet another remark comes out of the wanna be singer...Listen, I'm going to tell you this nicely...I can make the group go ahead and tie you up to a tree by your toes and let you suffer until the officials come and pick you up. Now shut the hell up and start walking. I think I see some food.

(Lights dim.)

Act 3, Scene 1: CLIMAX: Ji Yong gets CAUGHT!

Setting: This is the climax scene. Ji yong's film falls out of his camera as they are hiding. The official hears it and Ji Yong makes a run for it to get away from the group so they wouldn't get caught. Hyun and Dong Dong hold each other so they can cry quietly and not go after JiYong.

SMUGGLER:

Quickly you imbeciles! You're going to get us all caught! GOD DAMN. You guys are the worst damn group ever. Slower than babies! I TELL YOU. Wait... *(whispers)* STOP.

(Smuggler pushes his way ahead of the group and pushes some of the heads and bodies lower.)

OFFICIAL #5:

Shh...guys you hear that?

(The smuggler's eyes get wide as he holds one finger to the mouth telling all of the others to quiet down. Ji yong is seen trying to catch up as the smuggler tells him to stop leaving him about 15 feet away from the group. Hyun holds Dong Dong close.)

OFFICIAL #6:

Day, gwayge mo-wonde?

OFFICIAL #5:

Well, I wouldn't be asking you what it was if I knew myself...now would I?

(Jiyong slowly tries to make his way over when he steps onto a field mouse and it squeals in pain. All of the defectors have their eyes wide open and start to pray. Hyun grabs her cross.)

OFFICIAL #5:

Wait there it is again. Did you hear that cry? I think we have a defector. Kyun, Lee, Bae come here. Help me look...I think I heard something over here.

(Three more officials appear as they get closer to Ji Yong. Ji Yong quickly throws away his camera and throws all of his film away. Ji Yong pretends to be asleep. The officials approach him.)

OFFICIAL #9:

HEY. GET UP.

(Kicks Jiyong in the side. The group of defectors watch. JiYong wakes up from his fake sleep.)

JİYONG:

GAH!

(sighs as he stretches.)

Why are you guys here?

OFFICIAL #8:

The question is why are you here!

OFFICIAL #6:

This place is off limits. Can't you read. Do you have the brain of a mulgogi?!

OFFICIAL #7:

I hear they forget things like seconds and just swim around the rivers, the defectors try to run across but then we just shoot them down like geese....one.....by.....one....

(Official #7 laughs. JiYong looks up in confusion.)

OFFICIAL #8:

Ugh....

(Official #8 backhands Official #7 in the stomach.)

OFFICIAL #7:

OW!

OFFICIAL #8:

SHUTUP, idiot.

OFFICIAL #6:

Why are you here? We won't ask again nicely.

(All of the Officials pull out rifles and start to load them. All but Official #6.)

JİYONG:

Whoa Whoa Whoa....calm down. I'm just a tourist from China. I went on a long walk from my house. Calm down.

OFFICIAL #8:

Don't tell us what to do. Technically, I can say that you were a defector and ran away so I just HAD to

shoot you down like a wild animal.

OFFICIAL #7:

But we won't do that.

OFFICIAL #5:

Where in China are you from?

JİYONG:

Kay-song-see.

OFFICIAL #7:

Ah, I THINK MY UNCLE LIVES THERE. Ever see him?

OFFICIAL #8:

(Official #8 slaps Official #7 again)

Moron, that's a village in North Korea. Obviously, you weren't educated young one. Or should I say defector. Where's the rest of you're group. We have bullets that we can shoot them down with. Leave, you dog...you son of a dog...you animal...you son of bitch...It's you and your kind, who ruin this heavenly country.

JİYONG:

I don't know what you're talking about, I'm just a wanderer. I am a Chinese citizen going on a long hike because I am just sick of my family.

OFFICIAL #5:

Alright well you wouldn't mind coming with us then? Right buddy?

(Official #5 punches JiYong in the stomach very hard and JiYong starts to cough violently.)

JİYONG:

Actually, I was just getting back to----

(JiYong bolts to the trees as some of the officials start to follow him. Official #6 pulls out a gun and shoots [gun shot is heard] at JiYong. JiYong is shot in the leg and dragged violently back to a

van. The van drives away.)

SMUGGLER:

We lost one guys.

HYUN:

(Hyun starts to cry.)

Can't we do anything!?!?!?

DONG DONG:

PLEASE. We have to save him. I saw it in a show once where this guy loved a girl and went to---

SMUGGLER:

SHUT UP! That's enough. You're friend is long gone. This isn't some super hero crap, kid. Let it go. Hopefully he won't be tortured as much since we're close to the Thailand border. Thailand is good to defectors...or was it Laos?

(Defectors start to whisper about going back)

DEFECTOR:

(Grabs onto Dong Dong's shoulder.)

Give it up kid. Can't you hear? No one is going back to save your friend. His mistake. The army and officials here are constantly imprisoning people here. Geu-deul-eun dae-bubun-ui sig-gan-eul jug-eum-eulo geu-deul-eul igyeoss-eo. [They beat them to death most of the time.]

DONG DONG:

No, that won't happen to him. They won't beat him.

(Dong Dong shakes him off and runs back to Hyun. Smuggler starts to laugh at his inside joke as Hyun and Dong Dong sadly get back into the group and continue their hike.)

HYUN:

(Starts to cry.)

DONG DONG:

Nuna, don't cry. We'll see him again. he just wasn't careful. He didn't pray hard enough. He didn't want it.

HYUN:

Do you know what they'll do to him? They just shot him down like a wild animal.

SMUGGLER:

(Looks back at Hyun and Dong Dong.)

They won't do much to him. He's already shot. They'll probably lock him up for a couple weeks. give him back food, strip him of his personality, beat him.....what else? And question him. Then they'll send him back to the hell hole of a place you guys are running away from. That's basically it...

HYUN:

Oh god. Please help help. Help him make it through.

DONG DONG:

God, I am being selfish but all I ask is two things: The safe arrival of nuna and I and that Ji Yong makes it out safe enough for nuna to bring him over. You'll bring him over...right nuna?

HYUN:

It's hard Dong Dong, I have a family...it'll be long.

DONG DONG:

You'll call him at least right?

HYUN:

That I promise.

(Hyun looks up to the sky and pulls out the cross that Ji Yong gave to her. She starts to mutter prayers as Dong Dong holds her tight and closes his eyes too.)

SMUGGLER:

(Makes a grossed out sound)

Religion. The second hell of this world....

(walks a little more)

We're almost there. Just a little more.

(Lights dim)

Act 3, Scene 2: Crossing the River on a Rickety Boat:

Setting: After the emotional scene, the smuggler has no feelings. The only ones affected are Hyun and Dong Dong and some girl JiYong helped earlier. For this scene, there can be painted scenery to resemble the empty forest and river.

(Lights come on.)

HYUN:

Here Dong Dong, here. Hurry up.

(Hyun picks up Dong Dong and runs after the group.)

DONG DONG:

I'm so tired, Hyun.

HYUN:

I know. Me too. We had a lot happen today.

SMUGGLERS:

YOU DAMN BASTARDS. Take your time. The officials can wait for you! We can wait.

DONG DONG:

He needs to pull that stick out of his butt.

HYUN:

(Hyun giggles at Dong Dong's remark.)

Dong Dong, you have to watch your mouth. If he heard that then you would of—

SMUGGLER:

Hurry UP!

DEFECTORS:

YEAH HURRY UP! Come on! You guys are being slow!

(Hyun and Dong Dong meet them at the edge of the river.)

DEFECTOR:

So how are we getting over there?

(Defector points over to the other side of the river.)

HYUN:

Yeah, the water is like slush. A boat would take forever to get over.

SMUGGLER:

I know. I didn't plan for this to be iced over. The engine won't run in this. We'll need to row the boat

over. You and you will row.

(The smuggler points to two defectors to row.)

DEFECTOR:

Gwaeenchanch ayo!

SMUGGLER:

You three help me get the boat ready.

(The other defectors stand around as the smuggler and his helpers prepare the boat.)

SMUGGLER:

Alright, everyone get in! One two, one two. Hurry up!

(The defectors get in and down under the edge of the boat.)

SMUGGLER:

Squeeze! In! In! IN!

(The smuggler positions the defectors with his foot.)

SMUGGLER:

Move, move, and move! Start moving the boat. Hey slow pokes. Sit up or stay low.

HYUN:

(Whispers to Dong Dong:)

Stay up Dong Dong. It's dirty down there. It's grimy. Please behave right now. I don't think he is in the mood.

SMUGGLER:

We're almost there; we're almost there. Halfway. Stay down some more.

(The smuggler kicks a random defector and the defector whimpers.)

SMUGGLER:

Keep quiet and get down.

(The boat stops as if it crashed.)

SMUGGLER:

We hit some ice. I guess it's hard enough to walk on. So carefully, one at a time.

HYUN:

Let's go Dong Dong.

SMUGGLER:

Start walking to land. Right there.

DONG DONG:

You said we were close. This isn't—

(Hyun covers Dong Dong's mouth.)

HYUN:

That's enough, let's go.

Act 3, Scene 3: Walking Past A Dead Body:

Setting: The group walks past the frozen river and find a dead woman in the river frozen there, head down. They start to walk until they walk into a group of defectors. They hover over a body of a defector.

(Lights go on.)

DONG DONG:

What's going on?

(Hyun quickly grabs Dong Dong and covers her eyes and walks away.)

HYUN:

NOTHING. Nothing. Don't worry about it.

DEFECTOR #1:

Her face was faced to North Korea and her heart was faced to the South. She was mixed between two places. Was she anyone we knew? Like apart of our group?

DEFECTOR #2:

Annyo. I don't think so, I feel as if the smuggler knew her though. Did you see his face? Guilt? Maybe the yang cheol in gan [tin man] has a heart! They've brainwashed her like they did to everyone else in the North. That's why we're so close to being out.

DEFECTOR #1:

Anyo! Don't say that! You'll kill our luck. I guess he may have a heart, doesn't use it though.

DEFECTOR #2:

All right. It's a shame.

DONG DONG:

Hyun, what happened?

HYUN:

They just found a lost girl who didn't know where she was going exactly.

DONG DONG:

Then why didn't she come with us?

HYUN:

She was too confused and wanted stay put. Let this go, Dong Dong.

SMUGGLER:

We're here. Stop. Get into that van and then I get to leave you pains at the embassy and go.

(Lights dim.)

Act 3, Scene 4: South Korean Embassy:

Setting: The defectors get there safely with no problems. Now they just have to seek asylum.

HYUN:

You ready Dong Dong? It's time!!!

DONG DONG:

Hopefully they'll let me pass without my mom. She'll be here in a few hours.

SMUGGLER:

Don't count on it short stop.

HYUN:

Go after me, Dong Dong.

RECEPTIONIST:

Ann-yay-asay-yo[hello], jega dangsin-eul doul su?

HYUN:

Yes, hi, can I have the form for asylum?

RECEPTIONIST:

(Hands Hyun the forms.)

Day, here they are. Can I have your identification card please?

(Hyun hands here the card.)

HYUN:

Thank you.

DONG DONG:

Hi, can I have the forms for as-sylum?

(The receptionist bends over and looks at Dong Dong.)

RECEPTIONIST:

I'm sorry but you need a guardian or parent?

HYUN:

(Turns around to hear his conversation.)

I'm sorry, I am his guardian.

RECEPTIONIST:

But it doesn't say on the ID.

DONG DONG:

Are you sure, nuun?

HYUN:

SHHH!

RECEPTIONIST:

I'm really not supposed to do this but I've heard your stories, I.....here you go kid.

Lights dim.

Act 3, Scene 5: Sending off Dong Dong to His Mom:

Setting: Dong Dong and Hyun are sitting outside the South Korean Embassy. They were just approved of asylum. Dong Dong is talking on the phone.

DONG DONG:

Day omma, Day, I have it all. I am a citizen! My past is long gone behind me. FIGHTING! An-yo-da-say-yo omma!

(Dong Dong holds up a fist when she says “FIGHTING!”)

That was brave of you, Hyun. Thank you for taking me in as your son. My mommy is coming soon, nuna. That...thank you. I'm going to miss you.

HYUN:

You'll have to call me every day and tell me how life is. I want your address, school, and everything you can possibly think of. Don't think you are getting rid of me this fast Dong Dong. You're not that slick.

DONG DONG:

What will you do next nuna? Any family here?

HYUN:

That's the thing...I have to bring them here.

DONG DONG:

Do you have won? That's a lot of won, nuna. Omma has won so you can take mines. Think of it like beibi siteungleohagi [baby sitting].

HYUN:

No, that's not needed. I'll go to find a job for now. I'm trying to bring over JiYong too when I get the won and if he is stable enough to come over here. I don't want to scar him again.

DONG DONG:

That I know omma can help with. She will bring JiYong over with no problem. He's been more of an oppa than my real one has. NO doubt about it. He saved us by doing that. He's so cunning.

HYUN:

Day, Hat-toe-ka-jo?

DONG DONG:

What do you mean “what will you do”?

HYUN:

I barely have won, no home, and nothing. I guess I'll rent out a bang for now. I guess I can...

DONG DONG:

Nuna, live with us for now. It's only right. You bought us a tent remember?

HYUN:

You sure?

DONG DONG:

Definite---

DONG DONG'S MOM:

DONG DONG! Naeg-ew-assada [Come to me!]!

DONG DONG:

Omma? OMMMA!

(Dong Dong and his mom share a hug and start to cry.)

DONG DONG'S MOM:

I've missed you. Saranghaeyo, Dong Dong.

DONG DONG:

Saranghaeyo omma.

(Dong Dong wipes her tears.)

DONG DONG:

Omma, this is Hyun, she's been taking care of me throughout this whole journey. Now it's our turn to take care of her. Please? Please! Please?

HYUN:

Hello, I am Lee Hyung Young.

DONG DONG'S MOM:

Annyeonghasayo Hyun. Nae ileum-eun Park Jun Hae. I'd be honored to have some one as gracious as you in my house. We don't have too much money so you'll have to deal with what we have and get a job once you get your official citizenship but for now you can watch Dong Dong.

(The three ladies start to walk.)

HYUN:

Come-sah-me-dah. But you need not worry about your house hold any more because I'll do call that I can to help you.

DONG DONG'S MOM:

Okay Hyun. How was the journey with this rascal of a girl?

DONG DONG:

HEY!

HYUN:

Dong Dong was fine. It was just... we lost a friend along the way. So that part was hard. I could tell you this journey was easy, but that'd just be a lie. This journey was nowhere near easy. I'm surprised Dong Dong made it through. She has spunk!

DONG DONG'S MOM:

Are you planning to bring your friend over?

DONG DONG:

Omma, that's where we come in. Hyun has a family to bring over so I thought that we could bring JiYong over...you know won wise.

DONG DONG'S MOM:

We'll see when I get the won. It might take some time though.

(Lights dim.)

Act 4, Scene 6: Final Scene: Letter Scene:

Setting: The scene starts off with both Jiyong and Hyun on stage. There is only light on Hyun's side. JiYong is at his room and has a cast on his leg. There is an official at his door to watch him. That scene starts off with Hyun in a Karaoke bar with her friends a few months after seeking asylum in South Korea. Hyun has a pile of mail in her hands. She and JiYong read it aloud. JiYong is seen at his desk in a cast and bruises writing the letter. Hyun is reading it. When the letter is done, Hyun pulls out the CD of her songs that Ji Yong sneak fully put his number in just in case. Hyun pulls it out and grabs for her phone.

HYUN:

Any-yo, no more guys.

LE JEONG:

(Holds up his hands and beg)

Awh come on Hyun!

HYUN:

(Hyun holds up her mail.)

I have to check these. But comesahmedah, Jeong.

(She is sorting through them when she sees one that is only made out to her name. When she opens it, she finds out that it is from JiYong.)

JİYONG:

Dear Hyun,

I'm writing you this letter to let you know that I am fine now. Hurt but fine. I will try as hard as I can to find you and Dong Dong. Remember, I need my stuff because... because you have my camera, CD, and something else. There are guards watching me until I can walk again and when I can walk, I will have to wear this weird monitor thing around my leg so they can find me. I have to keep it hidden too. But when I am done this torture, I will get out and find you guys. My mom has money for an airplane ticket so I don't have to revisit any of those places. I'm coming for you Hyun, to bring you to Cube. And once you're there, everything will fall into place. Like I promised. Why haven't you tried calling me? You have my number! It's on your CD.

-Jiyong.

HYUN:

(Hyun holds down the letter and looks to the ceiling.)

He's been gone for a while now. I still have his most prized things. After these, few months, Dong Dong and I have been putting some money together. I'm still living with Dong Dong and his mom. I mean, I can't sleep most nights because I imagine what would've happened to him and what he would've been put through. I worry too much. But then again, I didn't worry about my aunt and my mom told me she's still in the hospital. But I still need to bring my family together too. My brother is leaving my mother tomorrow. He's taking the same route as we did. I pray everyday that he won't share the same outcome as JiYong did or my aunt. He knows the story of her. Won is harder get here because they know my background as a bug jjog hangug-eo. My visions have changed in South Korea. The world looks like a new place...like I imagined. Everything is so different...so high tech. Natives here treat me like I am stupid because of where I come from but I will continue to show them wrong.

(Hyun dials the number as she cries.)

Beep beep beeeep boop

Ring Ring Ring Ring

(Hyun starts to tap her feet)

Voice Over:

(The North Korean national anthem starts to play...)

“North Korea is monitoring all calls at all times. To hear the terms and conditions: select one. To skip and accept the requirements press two-”

(Hyun presses 2.)

“Thank you. Respect the general! Long Live the Sun of the 21st CENTURY! - Kim Jong Il. FIGHTING FIGHTING!”

Ring Ring Ring

Ji Yong:

(With a weak and confused voice)

Hello?

Hyun breaks down in tears as the final scene ends.