

# Alice in Murderland

By: Wynter Suber

Character List:

Akari- Outgoing, caring, nonchalant

Arlen- Quiet, around Madder, emotional

Cora- Loud, really annoying, crybaby

Madder- Loud, hot-headed, childish, around Arlen

Rhys- annoying, talkative, crybaby

Shire - Quiet, observant, nonchalant, blunt

Amore- Chill, flat-tone (not mono-tone)

Elias- Caring, generous, slightly sinister

SCENE 1

Lights up on stage. There is a round table with eight chairs on upstage left and a pillar on downstage right lying horizontally. **MADDER** enters from stage left with **ARLEN** around his arm. **CORA** follows yelling at him.

**CORA**

WHAT THE HELL IS YOUR PROBLEM! DON'T YOU HEAR ME TALKING TO YOU!

**MADDER**

(Nonchalant) Sorry, TWAT... did you say something?

**ARLEN** laughs.

**CORA**

(stunned) ... EXCUSE ME! DON'T YOU EVE-

**AMORE** enters from downstage stage left.

**AMORE**

(flatly) Can you guys shut the hell up.

**MADDER** rolls his eyes and sits down with **ARLEN** at the table

**CORA**

AND WHO THE FUCK ARE YOU?!

**AMORE**

(whispers) hey, hey... come here.

**CORA** hesitantly goes to **AMORE**. He pinches her lips together. **MADDER** and **ARLEN** silently chuckle.

Much better.

**CORA** pushes him off and sits down on the pillar rubbing her lips. **AKARI** and **RHYS** enter from upstage right.

**RHYS**

I'm telling you something is up. (looks at everyone. Whispers) We'll talk later. Don't tell anyone about this. (sits at the table next to **MADDER**)

**MADDER** pushes him out of the chair. **RHYS** scadaddles to the opposite end of the table.

**AKARI**

(under her breath) Hopefully not.

**CORA**

(Talking to **AKARI**) What was that about?

**AKARI**

I don't know. (slight pause) He thinks we've been abandoned or something.

**CORA**

ABANDONED?! WE'VE BEEN ABANDONED?!

**RHYS**

(Standing up) I TOLD YOU NOT TO TELL ANYONE!

**AKARI**

Oops.

**MADDER**

What is that prick yelling about?

**CORA**

I HAVE A NAME YOU KNOW?!

**MADDER**

(slowly, getting up walking towards her) I'll call you whatever i want, shit face.

**CORA** pounces at **MADDER**. **AMORE** catches her before she reaches him. **MADDER** laughs sitting back down.

**AMORE**

(flatly) Calm down. (drops **CORA**)

**CORA**

WHAT THE-

**AMORE** Pinches her lips again.

**AMORE**

(still pinching her lips. flatly) Have you ever tried being quiet  
(medium long pause) I didn't think so. (Lets go of her lips and sits on the stage left side of the table)

**SHIRE** and **ELIAS** enter stage left. **ELIAS** stays by the table while **SHIRE** crosses to upstage right pulling out a lollipop, sits on the floor crisscrossed staring upstage at **MADDER** who doesn't notice him.

**ELIAS**

Hey gu-

**CORA**

WE'VE BEEN ABANDONED! (starts sobbing)

**AMORE**

(flatly) Geez.

**ELIAS**

(innocently) .... what?

**RHYS**

**WELL SINCE EVERYONE KNOWS NOW!**

**CORA** stops sobbing.

I have a theory. I haven't proved it yet **since me and AKARI were supposed to check the area to-**

**MADDER**

Speed this story up sissy pants.

**RHYS**

I WILL TELL THIS STORY AT THE SPEED I WANT!

**MADDER** glares at him.

.....or I can speed it up. I think we've been abandoned here.

**MADDER**

(skeptical) Why?

**RHYS**

Well... the floor I'm on... nobody was there and I checked the yard from my window...and...

**MADDER**

Well instead of being a dimwit you could've asked everyone to check the floor they were on.

**RHYS**

W-well I just thought-

**MADDER**

What, (Grabs **RHYS** by the collar) you thought you could just escape without a word to anyone else? Huh? IS THAT IT?!

**RHYS**

WHAT?! NO IT'S NOT LIKE THAT!

**AMORE**

HEY MAN! (pushes **MADDER** and **RHYS** apart. Flatly) Chill out. (sits back down) So you think that we're stuck here?

**RHYS**

Well... Yeah...

**AMORE**

Have you tried any of the doors?

**AKARI**

Oh yea... the doors lock on the outside...

**RHYS**

And if the doors are locked... we have to find some sort of way out of here.

**SHIRE**

Or... do we...? I checked the food stock and we have enough to last us for a good looonggg while...

**MADDER**

If you wanna stay here you can do that on your own.

**SHIRE**

Did you forget we're criminals? What are you gonna do once you get back out there (slowly approaching **MADDER**) Kill, steal, Nonconsensually bury yourself in women-

**MADDER**

(standing up grabbing him by the collar. **AMORE** is unbothered) I'LL KILL YOU IF YOU SAY ONE MORE FUCKING WORD!

**AKARI**

Don't test him.

**SHIRE**

Awe why not? You worried for me? I'm not scared of this self proclaimed super villain.

**MADDER** raises his hand to punch **SHIRE**. **AMORE** stops it.

**AMORE**

(flatly) I'm so sick of playing referee.

**SHIRE**

Then don't. We were just having a little fun. (Looking at **MADDER**) Right, maddog?

**AMORE** crosses to the table but doesn't sit down.

**MADDER**

I'M GONNA MUR-

**AMORE** Pinches **MADDER** between his neck and shoulder. **MADDER** falls to the floor. **ARLEN** rushes over to him.

**SHIRE**

(a little shocked) Woah.

**ARLEN**

(staring down at **MADDER**) What... what did you do to him?

**AMORE**

(Crouching down to her. Flatly) He's fine. Just... taking a little nap  
(Pats **MADDER's** head then sitting down at the table)

**ARLEN** nods and holds **MADDER** on the floor playing with his hair. **SHIRE** rolls his eyes and bites his lollipop. There's a long silence. **SHIRE** pulls out another lollipop.

**RHYS**

Well....uhm.... I'd like to get back to the bigger problem at hand... how are we going to get out of here...

**AKARI**

...I could go with you to check the doors... I guess (rolls eyes)

**RHYS**

(sarcastically) THAT WOULD BE GREAT THANK YOU... but no since you decided to be a snitch **BITCH** and tell everyone about my theory... so does anyone else want to come with me?

Everyone, except **MADDER** of course, blankly stares at him.

You know what? F you guys.

**RHYS** walks backwards holding up the middle finger before turning around and storming off downstage left.

**AKARI**

Y'all saw me try to help right?

Everyone, except **MADDER**, shrugs.  
**MADDER** slowly wakes up. There's a pause.

**ELIAS**

I have to go to the bathroom

**MADDER** slowly gets up.

**MADDER**

(Slowly) Same. Gotta hit up the shitter. (Raises hand to dap **ELIAS** up)

**ELIAS** stares. **MADDER** moves his hand to wipe his hair and walks off downstage left. **ELIAS** stares then follows.

**CORA**

What are we supposed to do? We can't just sit here *waiting* for them to get back!

**AMORE**

What do you suppose we do then, big mouth?

**CORA**

WHY DO I HAVE TO COME UP WITH THE PLAN!?!?

**AMORE**

You're the one suggesting we do something... So it's only right you come up with a plan, right?

**CORA**

SO WHAT?!? WE'RE JUST SUPPOSED TO TRUST THAT WEAK EXCUSE OF A MAN?!?! I'm 100% sure he'll be the first to jump at a chance out of here! He's the last one we need to put our trust in!

**AKARI**

I mean... you gotta be honest, Amore... she kinda has a point...

**AMORE**

Maybe... but what do you suppose we do? There are two people out in the bathroom and one allegedly checking doors... I think we should give it time. At least until the two get back.

**MADDER** walks in from downstage left and sits next to **ARLEN**.

**AKARI**

There's one.

Long pause.

**CORA**

OH COME ONNNN!!! WE HAVE TO DO SOMETHING!! WHO KNOWS HOW LONG THAT OTHER GUY WILL BE OUT?!?!?

**AMORE**

Would you calm down for once? If you're THAT impatient go alone.

**CORA** folds her arms and looks away. Long pause. **ELIAS** walks in from downstage left and sits on the edge of the table.

**CORA**

CAN WE TALK ABOUT A PLAN NOW!?!?

**MADDER**

What plan?

**AMORE**

(Gesturing to **CORA**) Ask big mouth over there.

**CORA**

HELLO?!?! MY NAME IS CORA! I'M SICK OF THIS DISRESPECT!

**CORA** storms off downstage right.

**ELIAS**

What are we planning?

**AMORE**

A way out of here apparently...

**ELIAS**

*Isn't Rhys out looking at the doors?*

**AMORE**

(Short Pause) Yeah, that's what I told her.

**ELIAS**

Then why does she want to make a new plan without him?

**AMORE**

She thinks he's weak and can't be trusted.

**ELIAS**

(To himself) Well-

**CORA** screams off stage. **CORA** runs on stage.

**CORA**

**He's dead.**

**AMORE**

Rhys?

**CORA**

**YES YES HE'S DEAD!!**

**SHIRE**

Well, well... I wonder who could've done it?

**CORA**

What are you talking about...

**SHIRE**

Oh c'mon... Who else has been out (Starting to slowly pace the room) only three of us have left this room... Maddog here, The friendly guy, and you... Cora.

**CORA**

Are you suggesting one of us **killed** him?

**SHIRE**

What else would I be suggesting?...

**CORA**

WELL I DON'T KNOW WHY YOU'D BE ACCUSING ME!! THOSE TWO WERE OUT LONGER THAN I WAS!!

**SHIRE**

And we forget a very important thing once again...

**CORA**

...What?

**SHIRE**

That you...(getting close to her face)... are a prisoner sweetheart. (turning to the group) We all know what we did. Let's not forget that we are all here because we are guilty of crime. No matter what innocent little front you wanna put on, or how much you say you've changed. **You. Are. Still. Here.**

**MADDER**

So what? You think you're better than everyone else?! YOU'RE STILL HERE TOO DUMBASS!

**SHIRE**

Let's hold our temper. Getting so defensive only makes you look like a bad boy.

**MADDER** starts to charge at **SHIRE** but **AMORE** holds him back.

**AMORE**

**Could you try being less of a passive aggressive asshole and get to the point already smartass.**

**SHIRE**

*Fine, Mr. Peacemaker.* There are only two of you that I can confidently say would do it. Cora has already expressed how she feels about the weak link. And Maddog here is a hot head so why wouldn't he do it.

**MADDER** starts to move towards **SHIRE** again but is held back by **AMORE**.

**You can let your dog off the leash.**

**AMORE**

**What is your problem?!**

**SHIRE**

So now *I'm* the only bad guy in this room? Why don't we do a little share circle, hm? Let's gather in a circle and share what crimes we've committed! (sits on the floor crisscrossed patting the ground)

Everyone sits in silence for a moment looking at each other.

Oh... okay I'll share for you then. Starting with myself, *I* am here for aggravated assault and arson. (with a smile) I set my work place on fire. My boss of course wasn't too happy with that and started yelling at me. SO to shut him up I took a branch from the ground and beat him with it. (beat) Now who wants to go next (short pause) I do! Shire pick me! You wanna go Maddog? Okay! SO THE MADDOG HIMSELF is in here for raping his boss almost killing her and ROBBING her while she was unconscious! Can you believe that!? I can!

Everyone looks at **MADDER**. **MADDER** pushes **AMORE** off of him and pulls **RHYS** up from his collar.

What? The truth hurts? (Beat. Twisting **MADDERS** wrist off of him) How disappointing... you have nothing to say... The loudest person in the room... speechless...

**MADDER** stands silent looking at the ground. **SHIRE** stares at **MADDER** for a moment. Irritated **SHIRE** moves on.

...Well. Amore... shall I?

**AMORE** stares then gestures dismissively.

Amore is convicted of manslaughter. In a fit of rage he pushed his best friend off of a 12 story balcony killing him. He almost convinced the Jury he was innocent. Unfortunately for him though, a tourist filming the view from their resort caught the push in action.

Everyone looks at **AMORE**.

Would you like to comment?

**AMORE**

What do you get out of doing this?

**SHIRE**

*I don't need to **GET** anything. I'm proving a point. NEXT! CORA, you drugged a random, innocent lady at a bar just to satisfy your boyfriend... at the time... she had to go to the hospital due to overdose*

**CORA**

HE MADE ME DO IT!! (sobbing)

**SHIRE**

(going over to **CORA** patting her back) He didn't MAKE you DO anything... Your need for approval, your need to be loved, wanted, and seen... was bigger than your moral compass...

**CORA** quiets down.

From the moment you got up to talk to her, to the moment you saw her exiting on a stretcher, you knew what you did was wrong... yet you still did it. You knew if you didn't do it he was just gonna do it himself. You just didn't want him to leave you... and you found out the hard way that what he was feeling for you wasn't love. (beat) NEXT! Arlen... she's so quiet, the only words that have come from her mouth were about (short pause) Maddog. I almost wonder, why? It's because you helped him commit his crime. You broke into his boss's house for him, and robbed the place while he was enjoying himself. (walking toward **ARLEN**)

**MADDER**

Watch it.

**SHIRE**

(scoffs) I wasn't going to do anything. I just want to talk.

**MADDER**

**Talk about what?**

**SHIRE**

*Why do you need to know? She's not a slave to you... Are you Arlen?*

**ARLEN** looks at **MADDER**.

*Don't look at him.*

**ARLEN** looks back at **SHIRE**.

Look at me. Are you a slave to him, Arlen?

**MADDER** stares at **ARLEN**.

**ARLEN**

(looking down) ...No...

**MADDER** lets out a slight huff and looks away.

**SHIRE**

Alright, then can I talk to you?

**ARLEN**

(looking at **SHIRE**) Yes...

**SHIRE**

(sitting next to **ARLEN**. **ARLEN** scoots over. **SHIRE** grabs **ARLEN** by the chin turning her face towards him) Awe... There's no need to be scared of me. I haven't done anything to you have I?

**ARLEN** shakes her head no.

Right. I just want to talk. (Holding her hand) Are you naturally this timid? Or were you forced to be?

**ARLEN** pulls her hand away and slowly turns her head to **MADDER**.

Oh... I see... (Getting up peeking from behind **MADDER**) how sad... (walking toward **AKARI**) Well... **AKARI** (sitting down) You-

**AKARI**

I can speak for myself... (rolling her eyes) I... killed my psychiatrist... it just felt like he was mocking me... Just clicking his pen... writing in that stupid notepad... HIS PASSIVE AGGRESSIVE JUDGING FACE!... I couldn't take it anymore... When I realized what I did I just felt numb... I stared at him... put his bloody pen in his suit pocket and walked out... they stared at me as I walked through the lobby... before I

could walk out the door the security guards were handcuffing me... then the police showed up and now I'm here.

**SHIRE**

(slow clapping) Good job! You're one of the only people in this room that can admit to themselves they aren't a good person! COOL! Anyway... Elias here (pointing at **ELIAS**) I couldn't find your file... So it's puzzling to me why a sweet looking boy like you would be here... (leaning toward him) I wonder... did you go looking for your file? Did you know someone would look for it? That I would...

**ELIAS** stares at **SHIRE** silently.

Hm...

**CORA**

WHAT EVER! CAN WE JUST FIND A WAY OUT OF HERE NOW?!? WHO CARES WHAT ANY OF US DID?!? You proved your point okay!? YOU PROVED IT A LONG TIME AGO!!

**SHIRE'S** eyes linger on **ELIAS'** a little longer.

**SHIRE**

But... we still haven't (to **CORA**) figured out who killed poor Rhys...

**CORA**

WELL, I DIDN'T KILL HIM!

**SHIRE**

Prove it.

**CORA**

HOW DO YOU EXPECT ME TO DO THAT?!

**SHIRE**

Hm... that's a good question (walking towards **CORA**) .... I KNOW! You could die.

**CORA**

WHAT?!

**SHIRE**

It's the quickest way to prove your innocence. If the killings continue in your absence... then you'd be innocent in death. SO do you want to kill yourself or have someone kill you?

**CORA**

WHAT?! NO! WHAT THE FUCK IS YOUR PROBLEM?!

**SHIRE**

You want your innocence proven right?

**AMORE**

Let's be civil Shire...

**SHIRE**

Then what do you suggest, Peacemaker?

**AMORE**

... I don't know... (beat) There's obviously a divide here so let's just split up and figure a way out.

**CORA**

Well I know who I **DON'T** wanna work with! (glaring at **SHIRE**)

**SHIRE**

Oh you don't have to worry about me... I'm not going into any of the groups. It'll make the split more even...

**AMORE**

Well... one problem is out of the way... how do you guys wanna split...

**SHIRE** moves upstage center.  
**ELIAS** and **AKARI** move to **AMORE**.  
**ARLEN** and **MADDER** move to the opposite side. **CORA** walks to **AMORE**. **AMORE** holds out his arm pushing her back.

**CORA**

What are you doing?

**AMORE**

Groups gotta be even...

**CORA**

WHAT?! I DON'T WANNA BE GROUPED WITH THAT ASSHOLE!!

**AMORE**

Then work by yourself...

**CORA**

(Loud annoyed groan) FINE! (stomping to the other side of the stage)

**ELIAS**

If you want... I could switch with you...

**AMORE** looks visibly annoyed.

**CORA**

THANK GOD! (runs to the opposite side of the stage)

**ELIAS** walks to the opposite side of the stage.

**MADDER**

Glad you decided to switch with Ms.Bitch.

**ELIAS**

Just thought I'd settle the tension a little...

**SHIRE**

Ah, We have another serene being in the room. Guess having thing one (points to **AMORE**) and two (uses opposite hand to point at **ELIAS**) on the same team (putting index fingers together) wouldn't have been effective, huh?

**AMORE**

Could you just shut up already?

**SHIRE**

Sure my most tranquil leader. (bows making eye contact with **AMORE**)

**AMORE** rolls his eyes.

**MADDER**

(grabbing **ARLEN** and **ELIAS** to the side. In an almost whisper to **ELIAS**) So... Do you have a plan?

**CORA** is pantomiming a plan she has to **AMORE** and **AKARI**. It should look stupid.

**ELIAS**

Not necessarily... I thought Rhys' plan was pretty good... but-

**MADDER**

Right- Punk ass got himself killed.

**MADDER, ARLEN, and ELIAS** pantomime talking.

**AMORE**

(to **CORA**) ...You're a dumbass...

**CORA**

(slightly exaggerated) Oh fuck you...

**AMORE**

The idea was dumb as shit.

**AKARI**

...He's not... wrong

**CORA**

WELL IF ITS SO BAD COME UP WITH A BETTER IDEA THEN!!

**AKARI** pantomimes a better idea. It should look good.

**MADDER**

Damn.. you really are a step up from Ms.Pisspanties. I think that's a pretty solid idea.

**ELIAS**

Uh... thanks. (looks offstage)... It looks like it's getting dark out. I think we should hang out until morning...

**MADDER**

Nawh I think we should sneak out now while we can. It's dark. They wouldn't notice.

**ELIAS**

(sarcastically) I suppose you have a flashlight then...

**MADDER**

(not realizing the sarcastic comment. beat) You're right. (Gestures **ARLEN** to follow him to the bench)

**ARLEN** slowly goes to follow. **ELIAS** watches them. **SHIRE** is slowly approaching **ELIAS** and turns him around. **AMORE** watches this exchange but can't hear anything. **MADDER** and **ARLEN** don't notice or hear. **AKARI** and **CORA** look as if they're arguing.

**SHIRE**

Do you think you can trust him? **Be honest.**

**ELIAS**

Well-

**SHIRE**

Think. Elias.

**ELIAS**

I-... (beat) ... does it- matter?

**SHIRE**

I suppose... it doesn't, **but** do you want to be on a team with an alleged- (thinks a moment for wording) active murderer?

**ELIAS**

Wha- (catches himself) Rhys? Is that what this is about? Of course I don't want to be murdered but-

**SHIRE**

But what? Who says you won't be next? You came up with the plan of action and that's exactly what Rhys did... where is he?

**ELIAS** looks back at **MADDER** then back at **SHIRE**.

Is it clicking now? (stares at **ELIAS** as he walks back to where he was sitting)

**ELIAS** holds eye contact with **SHIRE** for a few seconds before **AMORE** catches his eye as **AMORE** walks up to him. **SHIRE** smirks as he watches things play out.

**AMORE**

What was that?

**ELIAS**

Nothing. (starts walking toward **MADDER**)

**AMORE**

(grabs **ELIAS'** arm) Look, I just want to make sure he's not fucking with your head.

**ELIAS**

It's cool.

A moment passes while they stare at each other.

**AMORE**

(letting go of **ELIAS'** arm) Alright.

**MADDER** looks over to see **ELIAS** and **AMORE** are talking.

**MADDER**

What the fuc- (getting up going over to **ELIAS** and **AMORE**) WHAT THE HELL IS THIS?!?

**AMORE**

Chill out. I was just checking up on him.

**MADDER**

FOR WHAT?!

**AMORE**

(irritated) I saw Shire and him talking. Making sure he wasn't getting in his head.

**SHIRE** gets up walking to the group.

**MADDER**

(to **SHIRE**) What is your fucking problem (grabbing **SHIRE** up by his shirt) You can't just sit back and not mess with shit?!

**SHIRE**

I was warning him about you, and for good reason clearly...

**MADDER**

WHAT THE FUCK IS THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN!?

**SHIRE**

**Look at you. You're acting like a rabid fucking animal.**

**MADDER**

Shut. Up.

**SHIRE**

Why? You realized you're being a bad boy, Maddog?

**MADDER**

SHUT! UP!

**SHIRE**

Just be a good boy and let me go mkay.

**MADDER** starts choking **SHIRE**.  
**ARLEN** gets up.

**ARLEN**

Madder.

**MADDER** doesn't look at her.

Madder let him go.

**AMORE** walks toward **MADDER**.

**AMORE**

Madder (tries to break them up)

**MADDER** pushes him back.

**ARLEN**

Madder stop.

**MADDER**

Shut up.

**SHIRE**

(straining) Is this what you did to Rhys

**MADDER** talks first. **ARLEN** starts at **SHIRE'S** "you're". **AMORE** starts after **ARLEN'S** "SHIRE!!" **ELIAS** starts at **AMORE'S** "PUSH HARDER!!" **CORA** sits and watches. **AKARI** freezes in horror. **AMORE** should be the last line.

<b>MADDER</b>	<b>SHIRE</b>	<b>ARLEN</b>	<b>AMORE</b>	<b>ELIAS</b>
SHUT UP!!	Did you hold him			
I DIDN'T DO	up like you're			
IT!! I DIDN'T	holding me?	SHUT UP SHIRE!!	(Trying to	
FUCKING DO	Did you watch	SHUT UP!! SHUT	push	
IT ASSHOLE!!	him struggle	UP!! SHUT UP!!	<b>MADDER</b> off	
SHUT THE FUCK	for air? The	SHUT UP!! SHUT	of <b>SHIRE</b> )	
UP!! (to <b>AMORE</b> )	life disappear	UP!! SHUT UP!!	MADDER	
GET OFF OF ME!!	from his eyes?	SHUT UP!! SHUT	STOP!!	
SHUT THE FUCK	Did you feel	UP!! SHUT UP!!	( <b>ELIAS</b>	
UP!! (to <b>SHIRE</b> )	his body weight	SHUT UP!! SHUT	tries to	
I DIDN'T KILL	get heavier?	UP!! SHUT UP!!	help	
HIM!! SHUT UP	What did you	SHUT UP!! SHUT	<b>AMORE</b> )	
GOD DAMMIT!!	think after you-	UP!! SHUT UP!!	SHIRE SHUT	
			UP!! GOD	
			DAMMIT!!	
			(to <b>ELIAS</b> )	
			PUSH	
			HARDER!!	I'M
			FUC- GRAB	
			TRYING!!	
			HIS- PULL	I'M
			HIS ARM!!	
	TRYING!!			
			DAMMIT!!	HE'S
			(to <b>MADDER</b> )	TOO- HE
			STOP IT	WON'T
			MADDER!!	MOVE!!
			YOU'RE KIL-	

**MADDER** let's go of **SHIRE**. **SHIRE** falls to the floor.

**AMORE**

(livid) WHAT THE FUCK!?!?

**ELIAS**

You... killed him...

**MADDER**

OH BULL SHIT! NOW I'M THE BAD GUY?!?! WHEN THAT FUCKER HAS BEEN TORMENTING US THE ENTIRE WE'VE BEEN SITTING HERE!?!?

**AMORE**

WELL SURE HE WAS A FUCKING ASS BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN OFF HIM!

**MADDER**

SO WHAT NOW, AMORE HUH!?! HE'S DEAD! NOTHING WE CAN DO ABOUT IT!

**ELIAS**

...Madder...

**MADDER**

WHAT?!

**ELIAS**

...did you... did you kill Rhys...?

**MADDER**

WHA- NO I- I DIDN'T KILL-

**CORA**

Well you were so ready to kill Shire... How can we know you didn't kill Rhys.

**MADDER**

(Charging toward **CORA**) WHY YOU BI-

**AMORE** and **ELIAS** hold him back.

**CORA**

NOW YOU'RE GONNA KILL ME!??!

**ARLEN**

(going to **MADDER**) can you just please calm down.

**MADDER**

FOR WHAT?!

**ARLEN**

(hesitantly) Stop yelling please.

**MADDER**

(Charging toward **ARLEN**) WHY THE FUCK-

**ARLEN** flinches. **MADDER** stops himself and looks at everyone.

Fuck...

**SHIRE** gets up and snaps **MADDER'S** neck. **MADDER** falls to the ground dead. There's a long pause.

**ARLEN**

(scream. Run to **MADDER**) WHAT DID YOU DO!??!?!?

**SHIRE**

I removed the problem...

**AMORE**

SHIRE!

**SHIRE**

What?

**ARLEN** slowly gets up looking drained of life and walks off downstage left.

**CORA**

You faked your death?

**SHIRE**

No, I faked my life...

**AMORE**

THIS IS SERIOUS SHIT SHIRE!

**SHIRE**

Look, we're all trying to get out of this shit box right!?

**AMORE** rolls his eyes, **CORA** nods, **AKARI** and **ELIAS** look at each other and hesitantly nod too.

Then what I did here to Maddog was necessary. We all know he killed Rhys.

**AMORE**

We can assume he did it.

**SHIRE**

Okay... Mr.Tranquility we can assume he killed Rhys. Either way keeping him alive wouldn't have been helpful.

Long silence.

**AKARI**

I think I should go check on Arlen...

**ELIAS**

I'll go with you.

**SHIRE**

Give her my condolences.

**AMORE** elbows **SHIRE**. **SHIRE** doesn't budge. **AKARI** stares at **SHIRE**. **SHIRE** encourages them to leave. **AKARI** rolls her eyes and walks off downstage left. **ELIAS** follows.

**CORA**

So what now?

**AMORE**

How the fuck did we end up stuck here... together... (sitting downstage right)

**SHIRE**

(moving to **AMORE**) Is the peacemaker cracking?

**AMORE**

Shire... just shut up.

**CORA**

CAN WE TALK ABOUT WHAT WE'RE GONNA DO TO GET THE FUCK OUT OF HERE!?

**AMORE**

You shut up too.

**CORA**

BUT WE-

**AMORE**

I said shut up.

**CORA** pouts. There's a long pause.

**SHIRE**

What are you thinking about Mr. Peace.

**AMORE**

I'm processing.

**SHIRE**

Processing what?

**AMORE**

Are you serious...

**SHIRE**

Oh come on... Is this about Maddog? He had it comin-

**AMORE** grabs **SHIRE** up by his shirt.

**AMORE**

THIS isn't JUST about Madder, okay? It's about the abandonment, the unsolved murder of Rhys, the arguing, the planning to get the FUCK out of here, and you... How did you even find our sentences? You're hiding somethin-

**SHIRE** breaks free from **AMORE'S** grip pushing him back.

**SHIRE**

You're thinking too much. It doesn't matter how I found the files. Or what I could be hiding. (beat) Sure. I am hiding something. I knew a way out of here the entire time. I was just waiting for everyone else to catch up. Now, I wasn't expecting people to start dropping like flies. I mean Rhys was a shock to everyone. Madder- I wasn't intending to... but hey. And I hardly know Arlen but seeing how she clung to Madder... I wouldn't be surprised if she killed herself by now. That's 3 down and 5 left to go. If I'm right about Arlen of course.

**AMORE**

You're full of shit. You know that, right?

**SHIRE**

Eh.

**AKARI** rushes in **ELIAS** following behind her.

**AKARI**

She killed herself.

**SHIRE**

Called it.

**AKARI**

What the fuck is wrong with you?

**SHIRE**

So I can't be honest anymore?

**AMORE**

It was unneeded.

**CORA**

WHO CARES!! I WANT TO GET OUT OF HERE!! SHIRE HOW DO WE GET OUT OF HERE?!?

**SHIRE**

Mhhh.. I don't know...

**CORA**

THE HELL DO YOU MEAN YOU DON'T KNOW!?

**AMORE**

So loud...

**CORA**

IT FEELS LIKE I'M THE ONLY ONE THAT CARES-

**SHIRE** knocks **CORA** on the side of her neck. **CORA** falls to the ground.

**AKARI**

Are you sure the only reason you're in here is because of arson and assault?

**SHIRE**

The reason the cops know of (wink).

**AMORE**

...It's quieter but is she dead?

**SHIRE**

Uh... I don't know how hard I hit her...

**ELIAS** goes over to check **CORA'S** pulse.

**ELIAS**

You hit her too hard...

**SHIRE**

And then there were 4.

Everyone stares at **SHIRE** for a moment.

(kneeling down to **CORA**) ...Fine... My deepest dearest apologies.

**AMORE** pulls **SHIRE** up.

What?

**AMORE**

Look, you said you knew how to get out of here?

**SHIRE**

Mhm.

**AMORE**

Well... Speak.

**SHIRE**

How boring...

**ELIAS**

Was this supposed to be fun to you?

**SHIRE**

Oh, it was fun... I just don't want it to end this way...

**AMORE**

JUST- tell us how we get the fuck outta here...

**SHIRE**

Boo.. fine the doors have been unlocked... Rhys had the right idea but seeing as he didn't get very far...

**AMORE**

And how did you know that?

**SHIRE**

So many questions... (pause) I unlocked them. When I went looking through your files.

**AMORE**

So what were you planning here? Were you behind this whole shit show?

**SHIRE**

You give me so much credit Lord tranquility... No, there's no way I'd pick any of us out for this... I just woke up earlier. After being behind bars for a while the imagination blooms. I didn't *plan* anything, I just got bored. But I meant what I said earlier, we're all convicts... there's nothing much out there for us.

**AKARI**

Well I think anything beats being behind bars for the rest of my life. I'm gonna bounce. (beat) Thanks, Shire.

**AKARI** walks off downstage left.

**AMORE**

(beat) I'm gonna head out too.

**AMORE** exits downstage left.

**ELIAS** starts to follow **AMORE**.

**SHIRE**

Elias.

**ELIAS** stops and turns to **SHIRE**.

You're behind it aren't you?

**ELIAS**

How long did you have that figured out.

**SHIRE**

Since I couldn't find your file.

**ELIAS**

I could've guessed that.

**SHIRE**

Yeah... you're too quiet. Too kind. You were up before I was huh?

**ELIAS**

Had to be. I knew someone was gonna get curious.

**SHIRE**

Smart boy. Always two steps ahead. Do you wanna tell me why?

**ELIAS**

Maybe the next time we meet.

**SHIRE**

(beat) ...Next time.

**ELIAS** and **SHIRE** look at each other for a moment. **ELIAS** exits upstage left. Black out.