

# **THE DRUGSTOPPERS**

A Play By  
Gili Malinsky

## Characters

GLORIA: On the verge of a nervous breakdown

ABIGAIL: Proud, hurt, over compensating

DONALD: Motivated, hopeful, oblivious

AMY: Annoyed, amused, fragile

BRIAN: Shy, kind, trying

As the audience takes their seats, GLORIA is pacing the stage, nervous. Also onstage are a keyboard, standing curtains, and BRIAN. A projector screen hangs in the back. ABIGAIL greets people in the orchestra and DONALD greets people on the mezzanine.

When the audience has sat down, Gloria gestures to Abigail and Donald to join her onstage.

**GLORIA**

*(To audience)* Mayor Danny Sparks Middle School, clap once if you can hear me! Clap twice if you can hear me! Clap thrice if you can hear me! Superlative. Hello, young people! Thank you so much for joining our very special hour. My name is Gloria. It is so fulfilling to meet you. I know principal Hendrickse announced our post-recess arrival on the speaker system this morning. We are here for a very crucial and urgent program. Youngsters, we are the Help Pubescent Valor with Kids Program, otherwise known as the HPV with Kids Program.

Abigail and Brian hold up a poster that says "Help Pubescent Valor with Kids Program OR HPV with Kids."

**GLORIA**

This will be our inaugural Pubescent Valor program. Commissioner Treeseason *(she gestures to an audience member)* is here to arbitrate our efficacy and decide if, indeed, HPV with Kids has a future in the town curriculum, or if I'll never find a job locally again.

She laughs nervously.

**GLORIA**

Yes—before we embark on our alpine incline, I will give you 53 seconds to turn off your cellular devices. HPV requires your full vests and full zests.

Donald reaches the stage. Abigail walks away angrily.

**GLORIA**

STOP! Stupefying. Thank you for euthanizing your telephones. We would very much like to begin our toxic passage ...

She looks at one of the exits, then looks down at the commissioner, nervous.

**GLORIA**

To begin, elevate your hands if you have heard of drugs and alcohol. It is as I feared. Today we're going to talk a lot about those things and show you the dire, ghostly consequences of using matter like drugs and alcohol. I know at the end of our journey, you will all sense the perils of narcotics course through your adolescent bodies.

She pauses and looks at the exits again.

**GLORIA**

Yes, here to carry us through our lurid path are four ninth grade helpers. If you can count, you will see only three of them are with us. It appears one of our teen Kinders is ill disposed. I am sure she is on her way swift as a fleeting falcon! While we await her arrival, let's meet our three other jumpy juveniles. Abigail, please step forward and regaul us with a tale of the grade nine strife.

**ABIGAIL**

Thanks, Gloria! Hi, my name is Abigail and I'm so thrilled to be here with you to teach you about the horrors of alcoholic drugs. I need this credit to be first in the school's Academic Aceholes ranking, so then I can set a precedent, and win every semester, and then I can go to Yale and become a talk show host like Montel and then later a senator like Dianne Feinstein.

Gloria steps forward to thank Abigail.

**ABIGAIL**

As a tap dancer, actor, upright bassist, soprano, little sister, assistant to the sophomore class minister, Geraldine, and secretary of the Andrew Keegan drama club, I also think it is utmost important to keep a clean and healthy bodice.

**GLORIA**

Tha-

**ABIGAIL**

One way to do that, for an instance, is to wake up in the morning and count your turtle necks. In a study done by the Helmholtz Association of Germanic Research Centres, it was found that if you do a small task every day when you wake up in the morning, the rest of your day will be organized. If your day is

organized, you will probably not do drugs, because you will already know what you have to do that day.

**GLORIA**

Effervescent! Thank you, Abigail. I know we all feel ablaze from that knowledge. Donald, why don't you tell these middle grade animas about yourself.

**DONALD**

OK, well, hi! My name is Donald. I'm a freshman in high school. I really like cappuccinos with two shots of espresso and People Magazine. When I grow up, I'm going to be a celebrity publicist. Um ... Oh! I really like the show "Moesha." I just watched the episode where Kim gets jealous because Moesha starts hanging out with Teresa. But then Teresa also starts hanging out with Q and Kim tells Moesha she's trying to steal him! And then they start fighting in the square-

**GLORIA**

Translucent! Thank you, Donald. Donald is here as a consequence of some regrettable folly on school grounds, for which he feels deep remorse.

**DONALD**

Yes, deep remorse. Don't do dares that involve alcohol in school, guys, even if Michelle Nina says she did it last week and Mr. Lard thought it was hilarious and wanted to try some of that laced chlorophyll. Ha ha!

**GLORIA**

Yes-

**ABIGAIL**

Ugh, whatever ...

**DONALD**

Excuse me, Abigail?

**ABIGAIL**

As if you're even friends with Michelle Nina.

**DONALD**

I'll have you know she sat three rows behind me in earth sciences last year, which is basically the same thing as being friends.

**ABIGAIL**

Whatever Donald. I heard Michelle Nina didn't even dare you to lace that chlorophyl and you just pretended she did so you could get sent to HPV with Kids so you could try to be friends with Amy Shannon!

**DONALD**

(Gasps) How dare you!

**GLORIA**

Abigail! This is treasonous venom! I am sure Donald would NEVER lace the chlorophyl of his own desire.

**DONALD**

Yeah!

**GLORIA**

There is no reason to spout adulteration.

Pause.

**ABIGAIL**

Fine.

**GLORIA**

Palatial. Let us continue with our third ninth grade muse, Brian.

Brian waves. Pause.

**GLORIA**

Yes, Brian is an athlete and very devoted to the causes of basketball and running. So it's very important to Brian to keep a cleansed spirit, clean of fearful substances like opiates and barbiturates. And that is why he has joined in our efforts today.

Gloria looks nervously at the exits.

**GLORIA**

I know our fourth ninth grade gofer's just a kakapo feather away ... Well, we will have to start without her. We have so little time! Busty bambinos, we begin our journey with a musical arousal!

Donald and Abigail bring out a tambourine and moroccos. Brian goes backstage and takes a while. Finally, the lights in the auditorium dim. He reemerges and takes a while to turn on the projector.

**GLORIA**

Scintillating!

Gloria begins playing the keyboard. Throughout the song, Brian continuously projects the lyrics at the wrong time.

**GLORIA**

Somebody once told me the roll they want to role me  
I knew that person wanted me dead  
He was looking kind of numb, I said "hey" and he said "hum"  
On his breast was a shirt and it said "Ted"

Abigail starts playing the tambourine.

**GLORIA**

Well, the tears start coming and they don't stop coming  
Ted broke the rules now he'll lose all his money  
Didn't make sense not to have some fun  
His brain got high but his bod got stunned  
So what is true? So who is me?  
That's what's wrong with toking Ecstasy  
You'll never know, you'll never grow,  
You'll never shine if you eat blow

Donald starts playing the moroccos and he and Abigail sing the chorus with Gloria. Every time Donald steps closer to Abigail, she steps dramatically farther

away. Eventually, she's standing very close to Brian,  
who gets very nervous.

**GLORIA, ABIGAIL, DONALD**

Hey now, you're a rockstar  
Get your fame on, hurray!  
Hey now, you're a pop star  
Get your glow on, Bombay!  
And all that twitter is old!  
Only sober stars can go bold

Gloria suddenly realizes Brian's not keeping up.

**GLORIA**

Brian, we have reached "it's a fool's place" in the projectiles.  
No, not "Bombay"—you've gone too far now, not "bleedy omens."  
Just a few projectiles back, please. Just one projectile  
forward. Thank you.

It's a fool's place, and you only get older  
A "disgruntled cow," insults only get bolder  
And the bleedy omens they deliver  
Trudging by that hole where your life was a fixture  
These high school stakes, they're cause for chagrin  
That pipe's looking warm so you might as well sin  
Your world's on fire, so is hers  
This truth yeah we mic'd it and we won't be ignored

**GLORIA, ABIGAIL, DONALD**

Hey now, you're a rockstar  
Get your fame on, hurray!  
Hey now, you're a pop star  
Get your glow on, Bombay!  
And all that twitter is old!

Only sober stars can go bold

Each time the following line shows up, it's accompanied by a picture of a 1990s icon.

**GLORIA, ABIGAIL, DONALD**

Don't be a loon

Don't be a loon

Don't be a loon

Don't be a loon

Amy suddenly walks down one of the aisles holding a large bag. Gloria stops playing.

**GLORIA**

AMY! Thank Gaia!