[He sighs in frustration. He gets an idea and brightens up. He consults the book, flipping through a few pages. He runs offstage, and re-enters a moment later dressed as a guard and carrying a sword.]

D/GUARD: "Who's there?

D/ANOTHER GUARD [Using another voice and changing his posture.] Nay, answer me. Stand and unfold yourself.

D/FIRST GUARD: Long live the King.

D/SECOND GUARD: Bernardo?

[DANIEL realizes how lame this is, and stops.]

DANIEL: So, a horse walks into a bar. And the bartender says . . . [He's got nothing.] F*ck. [NOTE: the horse joke is just the briefest possible stall here. The actor may choose to tell another joke or two, play a short tune on a musical instrument, maybe do an impression or a party trick. Then:] So, I had this weird dream the other night. Typical actor's nightmare. We were doing THIS show, and it's going great, we're making really good time, but then I realize that we haven't actually read all the plays, and we're just making stuff up as we go along Then Adam and Jess just disappear, and I'm left totally alone on the stage with an hour to fill. And there's this vague, sinister threat waiting in the wings. And then suddenly the lights go out and it's intermission. And I'm naked.

[As DANIEL drops his trousers . . . BLACKOUT.]

[Lights come up in the house. DANIEL is gone.]

INTERMISSION

JESS: That's ridiculous.

DANIEL: Adam, I think all your new friends would like to see it. [To audience.]
What do you say, would you like to see Hamlet? [Audience responds.]

ADAM: Okay, finc. We'll do Hamlet.

ANIEL/JESS: Great -

ADAM. a two-person show! If you feel so strongly about it, then YOU to it. I'm outta here

[ADAM jumps of stage.]

DANIEL: Hey, where do you ink you're going?

JESS: Get back here!

[JESS jumps into the audience and tries , will him back; the struggle

ADAM: No, no, NO! (Then as if changing his mina, kay way, OKAY! Just don't touch me!

[JESS lets go. ADAM starts to run.]

DANIEL: We've got a runner! Somebody stop has

[ADAM grabs a young audience memba

ADAM; I'll kill little Timmy! I'll kill

DANIEL: Fine, but that anitely turn him off to Shakespeare,

[ADAM_____o of his victim and runs out the back of the house.]

JESS m gonna kill YOU, you Shakespeare snowflake!

[JESS follows, slamming the door behind him. We hear ADAM scream once in the lobby. Then silence. They are gone. DANIEL returns to the stage alone.]

DANIEL: [After a lovong beat.] Don't worry, Jess is usually much faster than Adam.