

ROAD TRIPS AND KETCHUP PACKETS

by Kamron Klitgaard

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ROAD TRIPS AND KETCHUP PACKETS

A Comedic Ensemble One Act Play

by Kamron Klitgaard

SYNOPSIS: In this rapid succession of hysterical excursions, automotive travelers take on everything from hitchhikers to drowsy drivers and stoplight fire drills to a frustrated police officer who would rather be a choreographer, and on and on and on. Will these highway wanderers ever get to where they're going?

CAST OF CHARACTERS

(5-12 either)

ONE (m/f)	(32 lines)
TWO (m/f)	(49 lines)
THREE (m/f)	(50 lines)
FOUR (m/f).....	(66 lines)
FIVE (m/f)	(51 lines)
SIX (m/f).....	(68 lines)
SEVEN (m/f)	(60 lines)
EIGHT (m/f)	(48 lines)
NINE (m/f).....	(46 lines)
TEN (m/f).....	(47 lines)
ELEVEN (m/f).....	(39 lines)
TWELVE (m/f).....	(36 lines)

CAST NOTE: *Each actor plays four (or more) different characters.*

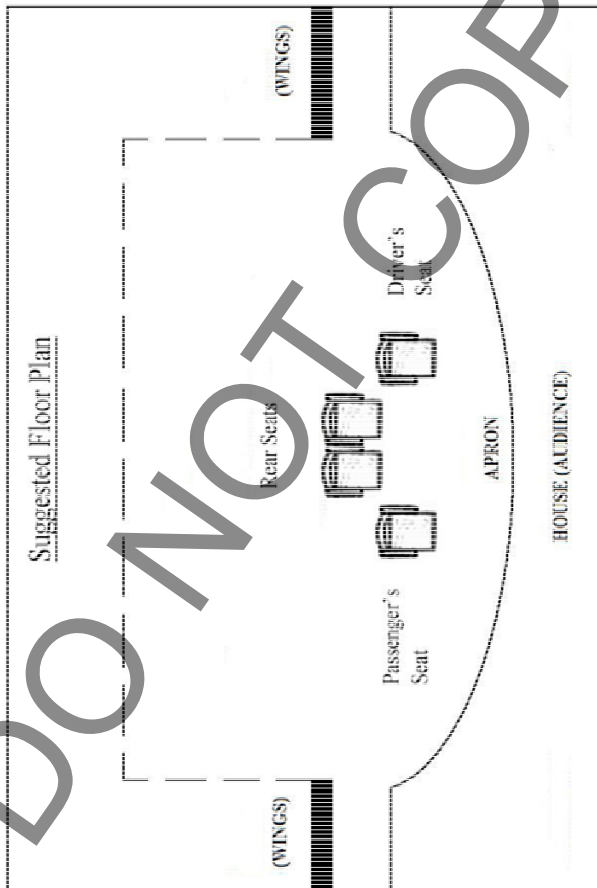
DURATION: 45 minutes.

TIME: Present day.

SETTING: In the car.

SET

The set is so simple. Four chairs set up as a car. The front seats should be separated about five feet apart so that the audience can see the characters in the back seat. The chairs are the only physical representation of the car. Everything else in the car, the steering wheel, radio, doors, windows, etc., are all pantomimed.



PROPS

- ☐ 2 handfuls of saltwater taffy
- ☐ fast food bag
- ☐ dollar bill
- ☐ 4 wands
- ☐ ketchup packet

SOUND EFFECTS

- ☐ monster growl (optional)

COSTUMES

Each actor wears modern clothes. An actor could change a small piece, like a hat, each time they change character. But no specific costumes are necessary.

PRODUCTION NOTES

MINIMUM DOUBLING OPTION: To do the show with only five actors, the actors simply rotate in and become the next number, regardless of what number they were first.

DIALOGUE: All of the roles in this show can be played by any gender, with small tweaks to dialogue and pronouns.

GENERAL DRIVING: There is no need to make the driving look realistic. But when in the driver's seat, the actors should have their hands on the steering wheel and pantomime driving the best they can. Ridged pantomime technique is not necessary but if the actors want to practice synchronizing turns, bumps, or stops, it will add to the fun of the play. If the driver, for example, slams on the brakes, he should really exaggerate it so that the others in the car can see and know when to lunge forward.

DONUTS: Everyone in the car during the “student drivers” scene, should practice synchronizing their leaning. When the driver does “donuts” and turns the wheel to the right, everyone, including the driver, should lean left. The passengers can also make screaming and skidding sounds.

HANS KELEVA: This is pronounced: Hans Kuh-LEE-va.

KETCHUP: When Twelve steps on a ketchup packet and it sprays in his face, he just pantomimes being sprayed and wipes his face. But he should have a real ketchup packet in his pocket, ready to produce it for the end of that scene.

TRASH MONSTER: Everyone knows someone who leaves trash in their car. The actors should just pantomime being in a thick pile of trash. When Two gets sucked under the trash by the Trash Monster the audience doesn’t see the monster or the trash, so Two should squirm on the floor, pretending to be buried in trash, terrified the whole time.

THE END: When all the characters in the Trash Monster scene exit to go get hot dogs, it leaves the stage empty for a second. The audience may think that it is the end of the show and start applauding. If so, Twelve should wait until the audience has stopped clapping before she says her line from offstage.

AT START: *FOUR enters running to the car, gets in the rear passenger's seat and bops up and down in the seat, excited, and rolls down the window.*

FOUR: Come on! Come on! Come on! Let's go!

TWO enters, walks to the passenger's door and stops to watch as THREE enters and walks to the rear driver's door.

TWO: Before you get in, get this through your head: It's 17 hours to the Grand Canyon, so we're gonna be cooped up in this car for a long time. There will be NO FIGHTING! Do you understand?

THREE: I don't wanna go to the Grand Canyon!

FOUR: I do!

TWO: I don't care if you wanna go or you don't wanna go. The only thing I care about is that there is no fighting! Do you understand?

THREE: Yes.

TWO: Do you understand?

FOUR: Yes.

TWO: And what is it that you understand?

THREE and FOUR: No fighting.

TWO: Excellent. Now, get in the car.

THREE gets in the rear driver's seat. FOUR and THREE look at each other. They scream and start slap fighting.

TWO: Knock it off! When your father gets out here you're gonna get it!

ONE enters and walks to the driver's door, opens it and gets in. TWO gets into the passenger's seat.

ONE: Does everyone have everything they need?

TWO, THREE, and FOUR: Yes!

ONE: Is all your luggage packed?

TWO, THREE, and FOUR: Yes!

ONE: You got things to do in the car? Treats? Games? Electronics?

TWO, THREE, and FOUR: Yes!

ONE: It's 17 hours to the Grand Canyon and I wanna get as much road behind us as we can before we have to stop for gas. So, if anyone has anything they forgot or anything they need to do before we pull out of the driveway, do it now. Nothing? No one? Alright, here we go.

TWO, THREE, and FOUR: Yay!

ONE pantomimes driving the car out of the driveway and down the road.

THREE: I need to go to the bathroom!

FOUR: Me too!

TWO: Oh, there's a Walmart. Let's just pull in there. I need some things anyway.

THREE: I said I had to go to the bathroom first.

FOUR: I said it second and two is higher than one.

THREE and FOUR scream and start slap fighting. TWO screams. ONE slams on the brakes and they all lunge forward.

ONE: I can't wait to die.

ONE gets out of the car and exits running and screaming.

TWO: *(Moving to driver's seat.)* I guess I'm driving.

THREE: *(Moving to passenger's seat.)* Shotgun!

FIVE enters and goes to rear passenger's door. Everyone's characters change.

FIVE: Hey, scoot over.

FOUR: *(Moving to rear driver's seat.)* Sorry.

THREE: Does everyone have their seatbelts on?

FIVE, FOUR, and TWO: *(Buckling seatbelts.)* Yeah.

THREE: Alright, now, what is the first thing we do? We just talked about it in the classroom.

TWO: Donuts?

THREE: What?

TWO: We do donuts in the parking lot.

THREE: No. We never do donuts in the parking lot or anywhere else.

FOUR: Why don't you let me drive first? I drive out on the farm all the time.

FIVE: We're going out onto the city streets now. It's not the same as dirt roads and corn fields.

TWO: Relax. I got this.

THREE: Remember what we talked about in class? Remember the acronym?

TWO: Oh yeah! CRUNCHED! I love that acronym! CRUNCHED! It sounds like what you don't want to do when you're learning how to drive.

THREE: Exactly. So, go through the letters. Remember? Each letter represents something you're supposed to do.

TWO: Right! CRUNCHED! C-R-U-N-C-H-E-D! The first letter is C: C stands for customize. Customize your seat. (*Adjusting seat.*) Check. The next letter is R. R stands for Rearrange. Rearrange your seatbelt from off to on.

FOUR and FIVE: Check.

TWO: C-R... U: Uh, adjust mirrors.

FOUR: "Adjust" doesn't start with U, idiot.

TWO: No, but "Uh" does. I said "Uh," as in a pause, like I'm thinking about it. And "uh" is spelled U-H. Uh, then, adjust mirrors. See? Now who's the idiot?

FIVE: Shouldn't the third letter be A? For "adjust?"

THREE: Actually, it used to be A, but everyone kept forgetting the acronym and they would always say, "Uh." So, I changed it to a U.

FOUR: The acronym used to be Crunched?

THREE: What's next?

TWO: Let's see C-R-U... N! N, N, Oh! N stands for Now. Now, go ahead and start the car. (*Starts the car.*)

FIVE: This acronym is really hard to remember.

FOUR: Yeah, that letter should've been S for "start" or I for "ignition."

THREE: I? Then it would spell Cru-iched? That would be stupid.

TWO: C-R-U-N...C! The next letter is C. That stands for "See if it's clear?"

FIVE: No, that's an S, doofus.

TWO: C.

FIVE: The word "See" starts with S.

TWO: But it sounds like a C!

THREE: Just skip the rest and pull out onto the street.

TWO starts to pull out.

FOUR and FIVE: See if it's clear!!!

TWO: Oh, yeah.

TWO looks back to see if any cars are coming then looks forward like she's gonna pull out but then looks back again. The OTHERS look back and see that it's clear and then look forward. TWO looks back then forward. The OTHERS look back then forward. TWO looks back then forward. The OTHERS look back then forward. TWO looks back then forward. The OTHERS look back then forward.

FOUR and FIVE: It's clear!!!

TWO: Are you sure?

THREE: I'm the instructor and I say it's clear.

TWO: I strongly feel that I should finish the acronym.

THREE: Fine. H.

TWO: *(Pulling the car out onto the street.)* H stands for hurry up and put your hands at ten and two.

FOUR: Finally!

THREE: You're almost done. What's E stand for?

TWO: Elevate your head, meaning keep alert.

THREE: Good. Last letter... D.

TWO: D... uh... D... shoot... D stands for... Oh yeah! Donuts!

TWO turns the wheel hard and does donuts. The OTHERS scream and lean.

THREE: Whaaaa! Stop!!!

TWO: *(Stopping the car.)* Don't ever, ever yell at the driver! It's unsafe!

TWO gets out of the car and exits in a huff.

THREE: *(Moving to driver's seat.)* I'm driving!

FOUR: (*Moving to passenger's seat.*) Shotgun!

FIVE scoots over to rear driver's seat as SIX enters and runs to the rear passenger's door and gets in. Everyone's characters change.

SIX: New York City!!!

THREE, FOUR, and FIVE: New York, New York!!! Whooo hooo!

FOUR: I cannot believe we're going to New York City!

FIVE: I haven't been there since I was three years old. All I remember are lights.

THREE: You're gonna love it! I think we should go to the Empire State Building first! That's where King Kong died!

SIX: No, we're going in the Statue of Liberty! It's so cool!

FOUR: Don't you guys remember the plan?! We have to go straight to TKTS in Times Square so we can buy our tickets for a Broadway Show! After that, I don't care what we do, but we have to get to TKTS right when it opens.

FIVE: Why?

FOUR: When I was a kid, my parents took me to New York City once a year to see *Phantom of the Opera*. But just like us, my parents couldn't afford full-price tickets. So we would go to TKTS for the discounted ones. And every year when we got there, the tickets were all sold out. So, we had to settle for some cheap knock off play, Phantom of the Banjo Concert Hall.

THREE: Sounds like it was Off-Broadway.

FOUR: Off-Off-Off Broadway! And it was all because we couldn't get to TKTS on time! So, every year I would tell my parents, "We gotta leave earlier! We gotta get there right when it opens!"

SIX: And did you?

FOUR: No! We always left late. Plus, on the way, my mom would always want to stop at Piggly Wiggly.

SIX: Well, no need to worry. We left in plenty of time.

THREE: Hey, hey! I think I see a sign for New York City!

ALL watch a sign as they pass it on the freeway.

FIVE: (*Reading.*) New York City 10 miles!

SIX: We're almost there!

FOUR: One year, they told me that we were going to *Phantom of the Opera* just to get me in the car. We ended up going to Iowa instead.

FIVE: I heard that you can actually have breakfast at Tiffany's. Is that true? Can we have breakfast at Tiffany's, just like the movie?

THREE: Only if we're there early enough! And we will be!

SIX: There's another sign!

ALL watch a sign as they pass it on the freeway.

FIVE: (Reading.) New York City five miles!

FOUR: I can't believe it! This is really happening! We're gonna be on time!

THREE: And traffic isn't even bad.

FIVE: We gotta get a Nathan's Hot Dog. I heard they're the best!

FOUR: Yep. Another sign!

ALL watch a sign as they pass it on the freeway.

FIVE: (Reading.) New York City one mile!

ALL: Whooooo! Hooo! Whoop! Whoop!

SIX: A sign already!

ALL cheer and watch a sign as they pass it on the freeway.

FIVE: (Reading.) New York City next exit!

SIX: This is it! Take the next exit!

THREE: I will!

FIVE: Don't miss the exit!

THREE: I won't!

ALL watch for the exit.

FOUR: Where's the exit?

THREE: I dunno.

SIX: Here's another sign.

ALL watch a sign as they pass it on the freeway.

FIVE: (*Reading.*) New York City 2 miles. What?!

SIX: You missed the exit!

THREE: (*Turning the car around.*) No, I didn't.

FOUR: Then why are we farther away?!

FIVE: There's another sign.

ALL watch a sign as they pass it on the freeway.

SIX: (*Reading.*) New York City 18 miles.

ALL: Whaaaaa!

FOUR: Turn around!

FIVE: We're going the wrong way!

THREE: I did turn around!

ALL watch a sign as they pass it on the freeway.

FIVE: (*Reading.*) New York City 54 miles.

THREE: What is going on! I've turned around three times now.

ALL sit back in their seats, depressed.

FOUR: TKTS opened 90 minutes ago.

SIX: (*Depressed.*) Look, there's a Piggly Wiggly.

FOUR: (*Depressed.*) That's the third one this hour. "The grocery store that never sleeps," according to my mom.

THREE: (*Depressed.*) There's a big sign coming up.

ALL watch a sign as they pass it on the freeway.

FIVE: (*Reading depressed.*) Welcome to Iowa.

THREE pulls the car over and gets out.

THREE: (*Exiting.*) I'm not going to Iowa! I hate corn! Whaaa!

FOUR: (*Moving to driver's seat.*) I'm driving!

FIVE: (*Moving to passenger's seat.*) Shotgun!

SIX scoots over to the rear driver's seat as SEVEN enters and runs to the rear passenger's door and gets in. Everyone's characters change.

SEVEN: Turn on the radio.

FOUR: We're in the middle of nowhere. There're no signals out here, remember? That's why our phones don't work.

SIX: How about a CD?

FOUR: The player's busted.

FIVE: Bluetooth?

FOUR: Do you see how old this car is? There ain't no Bluetooth connection in this thing. And there's no DVD player either.

SEVEN: Great. No music. No movies. No phones. No entertainment. What are we supposed to do?

FOUR: I got an idea. I made up a game called, "I got one for ya."

SIX: "I got one for ya?" How do ya play?

FOUR: I say a famous movie line, and you try to guess what movie it's from. If you're right, you get a point and then it's your turn to say one.

FIVE: How do you win?

FOUR: First person to three wins.

SEVEN: Sounds good. Why is it called, "I got one for ya?"

FOUR: Because that's how you start it. Like, when I think of a line to start the game, I say, "I got one for ya," then I deliver the line.

FIVE: Can you give us an example?

FOUR: Sure. Let's do an easy one for an example. Uh... Okay, I got one for ya. (*Impersonating the Wicked Witch of the West.*) "I'll get you, my pretty! And your little dog too!" (*Waits for an answer but the others just look blankly.*) Now you guys say what movie it's from. First one to say it gets the point.

SIX: What do you mean?

FOUR: You guys would say, "*The Wizard of Oz!*"

SEVEN: Oh! 'Cause that line about the dog is from a movie called *The Wizard of Oz!* I get it.

FIVE: Oh! okay, I get it. This should be fun!

FOUR: Now that we all (*Makes air quotes.*) "get it," I'll start. This one's for real. Whoever says the movie first gets the point. Let's see. Okay. I got one for ya. (*Impersonating Buzz Lightyear.*) "To infinity, and beyond!"

FIVE, SIX, and SEVEN look at each other blankly.

FIVE: Do it again.

FOUR: (*Impersonating Buzz Lightyear.*) "To infinity, and beyond!"

SEVEN: Is it a horror movie?

FOUR: No! Come on you guys; it's a super popular movie! Actually movies! They've made several of them.

SIX: Maybe you're not doing the voice right.

FOUR: I'm doing it great!

FIVE: Is it, like, from the silent era? 'Cause I wasn't born yet.

SEVEN: Give us a hint.

FOUR: The line is the hint! Okay, fine. This will make it way too easy but... Woody? Buzz?... Buzz Lightyear? "To infinity, and beyond!"

ALL look at FOUR blankly.

SIX: That's not much of a hint.

FOUR: It's the very first full-length CGI movie! Toys? Toys that come to life?!!!

SEVEN: That sounds like a horror movie.

FOUR: It's Toy Story!

ALL look at FOUR blankly.

FIVE: What's that?

FOUR: You gotta be kidding me!

SIX: Let me try. Alright, I got one for ya. "Hello and—"

FIVE and SEVEN: Zeek's Cheeks Cheeky News!

SIX: Yes! You two tied, so one point for each of you.

FOUR: Wait, what was it?

SIX: Zeek's Cheeks Cheeky News. Everyone knows Cheeky Zeek. It's a YouTube channel.

FOUR: You guys aren't getting it. It's movie lines! That means lines from movies, not some obscure YouTube channel nobody's ever heard of!

FIVE, SIX, and SEVEN: We've heard of it.

FOUR: That was just a fluke. Let me give you another example. This is the most well-known line of all time, so, you'll get it in, like, two seconds. (*Impersonating Darth Vader.*) "No, I am your father."

FIVE, SIX, and SEVEN stare blankly.

FOUR: It's so obvious. Come on! Luke gets his hand cut off? "I am your father." Forget it.

SEVEN: Wait. It sounds familiar. Is it a Netflix original?

FOUR: No! It's *Star Wars*!

FIVE, SIX, and SEVEN look blankly at FOUR.

FIVE: Is that a Broadway musical?

FOUR: No! It's not a Broadway musical. It's the most famous movie ever made! It's *Star Wars*! Darth Vader! Luke Skywalker! Chewbacca! *Star Wars*!

FIVE, SIX, and SEVEN look blankly at FOUR.

SEVEN: Oh... uh, yeah. Sure, I've heard of *Star Wars*. It's that one show... with that one guy... right?

FOUR: Unbelievable. If you guys can't even get *Star Wars*, there's no sense in playing.

SIX: Come on, this is fun!

FIVE: Yeah, let me try one. Okay, I got one for ya. "Hey, what's up everyone?"

SIX: Hans Keleva's Polka Podcast!

FIVE: Yep! One point for you.

SEVEN: Dang it! I was gonna say that! I was gonna say, Hans Keleva's Polka Podcast!

FOUR: What?! What is Hans... whoever's Polka Podcast?

SEVEN: It's a video podcast by a Danish Accordion player, Hans Keleva. It's a classic!

FOUR: (*Angry.*) No! It's not a classic! We're doing movie lines! No podcasts! No YouTube channels! No point! Let's just forget it.

SIX: Please? Do one more!

FOUR: Fine. But if you don't get this one, we're stopping.

FIVE: Okay, go ahead.

FOUR: (*Angry.*) Alright! I've got one for ya! (*Impersonating Jack Dawson in Titanic*) "I'm the king of the worrrrrllld!" (*Pausing for a guess.*) Oh, come on! He's hanging off the front of the ship with his arms stretched out like this, and he yells, "I'm the king of the worrrrrllld!"

FIVE, SIX, and SEVEN look blankly. FOUR pulls the car over.

FOUR: That's it! We're done!

SEVEN: Wait! I know this one! It's um... it's... Unexplained Paranormal Activity Vines Compilation 4 on Facebook!

FOUR: (*Getting out of the car.*) Goodbye! (*Exits.*)

SIX: Who's Darth Vader?

FIVE: (*Moving to driver's seat.*) Who cares? I'm driving!

Everyone's characters change. SIX and SEVEN get out of the car and walk to meet EIGHT who enters.

SIX: Summer break is upon us!

SIX, SEVEN, and EIGHT high-five each other.

SEVEN: Yeah! Finally!

EIGHT: You guys wanna share a cab?

SEVEN: Sure. Taxi!

SIX, SEVEN, and EIGHT head for the car.

SIX: (*Getting in the passenger's seat.*) Shotgun!

SEVEN sits in the rear driver's seat and EIGHT sits in the rear passenger's seat.

FIVE: Where to?

EIGHT: 326 Washington Boulevard.

SEVEN: 623 Coolidge Place.

SIX: 949 Caesar Chavez Street.

FIVE pulls into traffic.

EIGHT: How much is that gonna cost?

FIVE: Let's see... to Washington is about ten miles, Coolidge is another ten, so, that's twenty, and Chavez is another ten, so, that's a total of about thirty miles. So, it should be around—

SIX: Whoa, whoa, whoa! Do I have to pay for thirty miles and you guys have to pay for only ten and twenty miles?

FIVE: It's a thirty-mile trip. You can split it up any way you want.

SEVEN: I'll tell you what. We'll each pay for ten miles. That way, you get twenty of your miles for free.

SIX: Okay. Wait a minute! That's not fair!

EIGHT: It's more than fair. If you were by yourself, you'd have to pay for thirty miles.

SIX: I'm not talking about the money! I'm talking about the miles. You only travel ten, and you only travel twenty, but I have to travel thirty! It's not fair!

FIVE: Isn't that where you live? Thirty miles away?

SIX: Yes. But it's not fair!

SEVEN: That's the physics of the thing.

SIX: I think we should have to go the same number of miles. That's the only fair way to do it.

EIGHT: You want me to travel thirty miles when my house is only ten miles away?

SIX: It's only fair.

EIGHT: What am I supposed to do, walk back to my house?

FIVE: He'd be ten miles farther away than if he walked from here.

SIX: Just drive the car, buddy.

SEVEN: No, he's right. He could walk ten miles from here or he could travel thirty miles and walk twenty miles back.

EIGHT: I'm not walking twenty miles back.

SIX: You could take a taxi.

EIGHT: I'm in a taxi!

SIX: What if we average the miles? The average of ten, twenty and thirty is twenty. We'll all go twenty miles.

SEVEN: That would take us to my house.

EIGHT: I'm not going to drive right passed my house so that I can walk back ten miles.

SIX: But it's not fair!

FIVE: You could move closer. You know, like only ten miles away?

SIX: How could I move my house closer while I'm in a taxi? That's illogical.

FIVE: But it would be fair.

SIX: Just drive the car, buddy.

SEVEN: Why do we all have to travel the same number of miles?

SIX: To make it fair. You only have to spend ten minutes and you have to spend twenty minutes in the cab, but I have to spend thirty. Can't you see how that's unfair?

EIGHT: Well, I can't help it that I live closer to the airport. What do you want me to do about it?

SIX: Move farther away!

FIVE: How could he move his house farther while he's in a taxi? That's illogical. *(Receiving a look from SIX.)* I know, just drive the car, buddy.

SEVEN: What if next time, we all take a cab from ten miles away from Caesar Chavez street.

SIX: That doesn't help our situation right now. I just wanna give you guys some of my miles. It's that simple. In the name of equality, you have to take my miles! It's only fair!

EIGHT: I got news for you! I didn't do anything to justify you thrusting extra miles on me!

SEVEN: Me either!

SIX: But we have to make it fair!

FIVE: Who says life is fair? Look, sometimes you get handed a rotten number of miles. Sometimes it's a great number of miles. Either way, you take those miles and do your best with them. And then you work hard so that you can whittle those miles down for next time. Otherwise, you'll never be happy.

SIX: Thank you, Mrs. Taxi Driver slash philosopher.

SIX folds arms in defeat. FIVE pulls the car over.

FIVE: Okay, here we are. First stop 949 Caesar Chavez Street.

SIX: *(Looking out the window to see home.)* Yes!

SEVEN: You came here first?!

EIGHT: Now we have to travel twenty miles back!

SIX: (*Getting out.*) That's totally fair! Thanks, man!

FIVE: (*Getting out.*) I'll tell you what. I'll help you guys out by taking your miles and hoofing it to my house which is twenty miles in that direction.

FIVE exits. SIX, SEVEN and EIGHT look confused.

EIGHT: Now what do we do?

SIX: (*Rushing to the driver's seat.*) I'm driving!

SEVEN: (*Moving to passenger's seat.*) Shotgun!

EIGHT scoots over to the rear driver's seat and sits on the seat back as NINE enters and gets into the rear passenger's seat and also sits on the seat back. Everyone's characters change. EIGHT and NINE wave as they are in a parade.

NINE: My wrist is getting sore.

EIGHT: Just keep waving. And don't forget to smile.

SIX: (*Waving.*) Hey, there's Melanie Day!

SEVEN: What are you doing?

SIX: Waving to my friend. What, I'm not allowed to wave?

SEVEN: Yes, you can wave. (*Demonstrating.*) But not like this! This looks like your hand is nodding.

SIX: What am I supposed to do?

SEVEN: Watch them. Can you guys demonstrate a proper parade wave?

EIGHT: What do you think we've been doing since we started?

NINE: It's simple. Your wrist moves side to side, not up and down.

SIX: (*Turning to watch them.*) It looks like it causes carpal tunnel.

Besides, they look like prom queens. What are you guys anyway?

EIGHT: It's on the sign on the side of your car.

NINE: We're co-grand marshals.

SEVEN: Yellow line! Yellow line!!

SIX: (*Turning back around.*) What?!

SEVEN: You crossed the double yellow line again!

SIX: Who cares?! We're only going three miles per hour!

SEVEN: You're gonna get a ticket!

SIX: Look behind us! Do you see any cops?!

SEVEN: No. Just a marching band.

SIX: And in the front are just some guys on horses.

EIGHT: What about us?

NINE: Yeah, we're Marshals.

SIX: You guys are cops?

EIGHT: As a matter of fact... no, not really.

NINE: We're just in charge of the parade.

EIGHT: We organize the entries, line them up, point them in the right direction...

NINE: And we teach them how to wave.

SEVEN: Look out! Don't hit it! Don't hit it! Oh! You ran right over it!

SIX: What?! What?!!

SEVEN: That horse... you know... right in the middle of the road!

SIX: I ran over a horse?

SEVEN: No. It was a big pile of horse... reincarnation.

SIX: Oh. Horse poop.

SEVEN: Language! Would you please watch your language in front of the grand marshals?

NINE: It's okay, I like horse poop.

EIGHT: Me too. It goes with the job.

SEVEN: Just try to avoid it from now on.

SIX turns the wheel to hit some more. They all lean slightly to indicate the turn.

NINE: I guess we're waving at these people over here now.

SEVEN: Why are you swerving?

SIX: (*Swerving again.*) I'm gonna hit every pile they leave behind.

SEVEN: Are you crazy? You'll have to wash your tires afterwards!

SIX: Why don't you go sit with them? You can tell me how to drive from back there.

EIGHT: The backseat is reserved for grand marshals only.

SEVEN: Just drive straight or I'll report you to the grand marshals.

SIX: Fine. Hey, look at those kids. They look sad.

SEVEN: They do look sad. They're just standing there with empty plastic bags, looking sad.

NINE: They're sad 'cause their bags are empty.

SIX: Oh, they're wanting to fill them with candy. They're waiting for the entries to throw candy. How come no one's throwing candy?

EIGHT: We made it against the rules.

SIX: What?! When you're a kid, that's the only reason to go to a parade! You think these kids wanna watch two idiots in the back seat of a convertible showing off their horizontal waving?! Why would you make candy against the rules?!

NINE: We had an overwhelming number of complaints from two ladies from another town that it might be possible that a kid could hypothetically run out into the street to get a piece of candy and be struck by a clown on a unicycle.

SIX: Why do ladies from another town always have to take the fun out of everything?

SIX reaches into his pockets and pulls out a handful of saltwater taffies and throws them out the window.

SEVEN: Nooooo!

SIX: Don't worry kids! I've got your back!

SIX grabs another handful of taffies but SEVEN, EIGHT, and NINE all grab her. They struggle and finally kick SIX out of the car.

EIGHT: I, henceforth, ban you from the parade forever more.

SIX throws the taffy into the audience.

SIX: *(Exiting.)* Long live parade candy!

NINE: *(Pointing straight ahead in panic.)* Whaaaa! A clown on a unicycle!!!

SEVEN: *(Sliding into the driver's seat and stops the car.)* I'm driving! Stopped just in time!

EIGHT: *(Moving to passenger's seat.)* Shotgun!

NINE sits in the rear driver's seat as TEN enters and runs to the rear passenger's door and gets in. Everyone's characters change. SEVEN pulls the car into traffic.

TEN: Is anyone hungry yet?

NINE: Yes, I'm starving.

SEVEN: Okay, we'll get something to eat but we're making good time, so, let's just drive through a fast-food place.

EIGHT: Sounds good. Where do you guys wanna go?

TEN: How about McDougal's?!

NINE: I love McDougal's!

SEVEN: You mean McDonald's, right?

TEN: No. McDougal's. Hello? The one with the fool's golden arches?

NINE: Yeah, "Over One-Hundred Served?" At least that's what it says on the sign, though I find that hard to believe.

EIGHT: It's the one with the purple-haired clown for a mascot? He wears a fool's gold colored jumpsuit with purple and white-striped sleeves?

SEVEN: It sounds like a McDonald's knock-off.

EIGHT: It's nothing like McDonald's. It's totally at the other end of the fast-food spectrum.

NINE: Yeah, it couldn't be any different.

TEN: There it is! Pull in there!

SEVEN pulls in and drives up to the building. And looks up at the sign.

SEVEN: Those golden arches look really similar to—

EIGHT: Fool's golden arches!

SEVEN: Oh, sorry. Fool's golden arches. And look, it's now "Over One-Hundred and Seventeen Served."

NINE: Whoa! We haven't been here for a while.

TEN: I remember when it was just one.

SEVEN: The sign said, "Over One Served?"

ONE enters as a worker and approaches the driver's window.

ONE: Hi, welcome to McDougal's. Our microphone is broken so I'll be taking your order. Would you like to try one of our Chocolate McChip Cookies for only a dollar?

NINE: (*Leaning into the front seat to speak out the window.*) Yeah, I'll take one of McThose. And a Quarter McPounder.

ONE: Would you like that in a meal?

NINE: Yeah, medium-size me with a Diet McCoke.

TEN: I'll have a Fillet-o-McFish sandwich meal with a McOrange Hi-C.

EIGHT: Give me a Chicken McNougat Joyful Meal with a McCafe Chocolate Shake with three one-third pumps of caramel and can you give me the McBoy toy? The McGirl toys are McLame.

ONE: Sure. (*To SEVEN.*) And for you?

SEVEN: (*Looking at the menu.*) Let's see, is the Big McMac like the McDonald's Big Mac?

NINE: No! It's nothing like that!

TEN: Sheesh! The McDonald's Big Mac has, (*Quickly rattling off the ingredients.*) Two all-beef patties, special sauce, lettuce, cheese, pickles, onions, on a sesame seed bun.

SEVEN: What does the Big McMac have?

EIGHT: Dude, the McDougal's Big McMac has, (*Quickly rattling off the ingredients.*) Two all-beef McPatties, special McSauce, McLettuce, McCheese, McPickles, McOnions, on a sesame seed McBun.

SEVEN: It's the same thing! You just put "Mc" in front of all the ingredients!

NINE: The "Mc" makes all the McDifference.

SEVEN: (*Searching the menu again.*) Alright, there's something I don't recognize. The Chicken McGristle. What's that?

TEN: It's the little oily pieces and chunks left at the bottom of your Chicken McNougat container. It's a whole box of that.

EIGHT: It's deep-fried cartilage.

SEVEN: I don't think I can eat here.

ONE: Alright, I'll be right back with your McOrder. (*Exits.*)

SEVEN: I can't believe you guys have fallen for this!

TEN: What do you mean? This place is McAwesome!

SEVEN: They're copying McDonald's and just changing around the "Mc!"

NINE: They are?

SEVEN: This is a McDonald's knock off! They're just adding extra "Mc"s to everything. But it's the same thing! It's like they've hypnotized all of you to add "Mc" to your sentences! They're not gonna scam me!

ONE enters with a bag of food and hands it to them.

EIGHT: That's ridiculous. (*Handing ONE a bill.*) Keep the McChange.

ONE: Thanks. (*Exiting.*) Hey, guys! Change the sign to "Over One-Hundred and Twenty Served!"

SEVEN: You guys are just as absurd as this place! And I'm still hungry!

TEN: If you don't want to eat here, we can stop at Burger Queen or Taco Smell.

SEVEN: No! No Burger Queen! No Taco Smell! No Mendy's! No Grubway Sandwiches! No Yucky Fried Chicken! And absolutely, positively no McDougal's!!! (*Getting out of the car.*) I've had it with all of you! I am never going on another road trip with you ever again! (*Exits.*)

NINE: I thought he'd never leave.

TEN: (*Calling out the window and waving ELEVEN on.*) Come on! He's gone! Now we can go where we want!

EIGHT moves to the driver's seat, NINE to the passenger's seat. TEN scoots over to the rear driver's seat as ELEVEN enters with four wands, runs to the rear passenger's door and gets in. Everyone's characters change.

ELEVEN: I got 'em! (*Handing everyone a wand.*) I got the wands!

TEN: Yes! Harry Potter World, here we come!

NINE: Swish and flick.

ALL: (*Simultaneously swishing and flicking their wands.*)
Expelliarmus!

EIGHT: Only 1,800 miles to Florida!

NINE: That's pretty far.

TEN: Wake me when it's my turn to drive. (*Gets comfortable and sleeps.*)

EIGHT: Will do.

ELEVEN: Why does she get to drive next?

EIGHT: Don't worry, we'll all switch places eventually. It's a long way to Orlando.

NINE: Sounds good. (*Gets comfortable and sleeps.*)

ELEVEN: (*Getting comfortable.*) They're lucky. I can't sleep in cars.

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