

Playing Wolves Jim Henson Scene Draft 2/26/2023

A small pool of light on a wolf stuffed animal. The stage is bare except for everything we need, and this wolf, but we can't see everything else. Out of the darkness a hand reaches into the pool of light and takes hold of the wolf. Turns its head from left, to right, then directly up into the light.

TELEMEDES

"With the moon's glow beside me, inside me, I feel myself begin to change. As the tides are pulled by her great majesty, I feel a swelling deep within. Transforming, mutating, growing, transforming, mutating, growing—

The lights snap onto the stage revealing LUX, wolf in hand.

LUX
Shit.

LUX grasps their abdomen.

LUX
No. no no no no.

LUX turns around and unzips their pants.

LUX
Shit tit balls goddammit.

LUX frantically looks around, pants unzipped.

KENDRA
(Offstage) Yo Lux.

KENDRA enters. Their voices collide in panic. LUX attempts to push them out of the door.

LUX
-Kendra!

KENDRA
-yoooo

LUX
-Get out!

KENDRA
-What the hell??

LUX
-Get out!

KENDRA
Your mom told me to come up.

LUX
Yeah well, my mom's a cunt.

KENDRA
I don't think you get to use that word anymore.

LUX
Get out!

KENDRA
No I'm not going back out there, your mom's a cunt.

LUX
Will you just...not look? Please?

KENDRA does. LUX frantically continues their search for something, anything to put in their underwear.

KENDRA
What's wrong with you?

LUX
Nothing, I...I got my...

KENDRA
OH!

LUX
Yeah.

KENDRA
Your period!

LUX
Shut up!

KENDRA
Oh grow up it's not a dirty word.

LUX
It feels like it is.

KENDRA
That's not very feminist!

LUX
Well I'm a...guy getting his first period so!

KENDRA
Well congratulations are in order!

LUX
For why?

KENDRA
Because now you're a-

Stops herself

KENDRA
It's a right of passage.

LUX
I'm already a bar mitzvah.

KENDRA
I am fondly aware.

KENDRA picks a sock up off a pile of laundry. Smells it. It's clean. She hands it to LUX. LUX turns around and puts the sock in their pants. Zips. Turns around.

LUX
Thanks.

KENDRA
Do you want something...else?

LUX
I want to play the game.

KENDRA

I have an extra pad in my backpack I can give you.

LUX

I want to play the game.

KENDRA

A sock's not a long term solution, it's fine for now but long term is gross.

LUX

I want to play the game! Kendra! I'm fine. Do you hear that?

KENDRA

I hear you. I hear you. Sorry.

LUX picks up the wolf toy off the ground and Kendra removes a similar wolf from her backpack. They sit on the floor, facing each other, wolves in hand.

KENDRA

Ready?

LUX

Ready.

The light zeros in on the wolves and the rest of the world disappears. LUX and KENDRA are now Telemedes and Electeera, leaders of their wolf clan and protectors of the lunar secrets.

ELECTEERA

"Tis the first full moon since your bite, Telemedes, your change is on its way."

TELEMEDES

"I fear I have betrayed you, Electeera. My gratitude to your clan for taking me in runs deep in blood, as well as my shame."

ELECTEERA

"But now something else runs deep as well. This change will leave you exiled from the clan."

TELEMEDES

"Tell me what I must do. Please, guide me towards the antidote to this awful curse."

ELECTEERA

“There are whispers of those who have overcome the change, but such knowledge lies beyond my wolfly knowledge.”

TELEMEDES

“But you are the wisest and most powerful wolf in all of Lupinia. If you do not know the cure, surely I will suffer an exile, a fate worse than death.”

ELECTEERA

“Your mutation does not change my affection for you, dear Telemedes, you shall always have a home with me. But you must embark on a quest of discovery if you are to ever truly be one of us.”

TELEMEDES

“Will you be with me? Will you run in the snow by my side?”

ELECTEERA

“As far as my paws will take me.”

They howl together. Lux snaps out of the game. Their grip on the animal loosens.

LUX

Telemedes and Electeera run through the mountains.

KENDRA

No we don't! We stay in the cave and plot our next moves!

LUX

But we haven't hunted in three sessions.

KENDRA

Oh right. We need to feed the pack or they'll revolt.

They're back in it. Hands on puppets.

ELECTEERA

“Attend, ye Wolfkins! The lean winter will not break us. No matter how hungry we may feel – for meat, understanding, magic powers...love...”

Both Kendra and Electeera look at Lux/Telemedes.

TELEMEDES:

“...Love? My queen?”

ELECTEERA

Oh. Yeah. "Love! Together we shall find what we seek. Together we shall sustain. Tonight, we hunt!"

They howl again. The game has reached its natural conclusion. The pair pause.

KENDRA
Do you feel better?

LUX
Yes.

KENDRA
Good.

LUX
That "love" stuff was funny.

KENDRA
Oh. Psh. Yeah. Don't know where that came from.

LUX
Tomorrow?

KENDRA
Tomorrow.

Kendra packs up her wolf. She looks once again at Lux, and exits. Lux looks at themselves in the mirror. Touches where the sock bulges. Holds their wolf. End of scene.