



### Characters

**Jenny:** An instigator with a buoyant friendly voice. A Queen. A brave soul.

**Sam:** An influenced technocrat and amateur percussionist. A fox. A follower.

**Nim:** A worker bee, with soft organic antennas, who feeds the power of her quickening womb. A rebel that is driven by Secrets.

**The Mountaineer:** A manipulative being in a zip up white goat onesie with pull over hood. An old God.

**The Cellphone:** Played by a cell phone. A puppet that rings.

**Wipple:** A hive child, with stiff technical antennas, that has never matured or questioned authority. A workaholic that fears and respects Power.

## PROLOGUE

*[Like two awkward rockstars Sam and Jenny appear alone on the screen. They live-stream to their adoring TikTok fans standing in pools of pure bright light holding black microphones with white exes taped to their handles. Sam sits behind a battered white 5 gallon bucket holding two broken wooden spoons as Jenny stares fiery into the internet via a digital camera operated by The Mountaineer. Purple orange flashes over them as they bleat pure goat speak into the mics.]*

Jenny

Bleat. Bleat?

Sam

Bleat, Bleat. Bleat bleat.

*[They exchange more bleats between each other, raise their arms to point towards The Mountaineer and lift their eyes to the top of the mountain. Sam taps out a beat.]*

Jenny

One, Two-

Jenny

One, Two, ThreeFour!

Sam

One, Two, ThreeFour!

*[As darkness fades in The Sound From Outside digitally refracts as if a CD is shattered on a stone altar. It is the consumed by the sound of a digital swarm of wasps undulating in and out as it becomes the first few stanzas of Queen's Hit song "I Want to Break Free".*

*In the near darkness Downstage centre is an oval object sitting on a block covered with a drape. Upstage centre Right and Left are Nim and Wipple upstage in reflective harnesses moving through their repetitive daily work routines. Wipple drinks from a bottle of yellow liquid that sits on the floor in front of her.*

*Nim breaks the repetition and regards Wipple. She responds. This re-occurs. But Wipple does not respond. Wipple pauses and chugs her bottle before collapsing into her seat. Nim pulls out a bag of jujubes, eats a handful conspiratorially and lets out a sound. Nim picks up her chair and revives Wipple. They exit]*

**SFX: Soundscape - descending into the Bridge Mechanical Room**

**LX: Lights up full blue/ white wash on the mechanical room.**

**SFX: The sound of dripping water is heard followed by a creaking sound as if a metal door is sticking on its hinges in the frame.**

Wipple

[Off] Are you sure about this?

Nim

[Off] It's safe.

Wipple

[Off] It's in there?

Nim

[Off] Yes. Don't worry about it. Help me for buzz sake. Wipple, this is heavy.

Wipple

[Off] I'm not sure-

Nim

[Off] Just put your grabber there. There's a motherlode in there.

Wipple

[Off] There?

Nim

[Off] That's right ...Now, okay, now, Push.

***[SFX: The creaking sound becomes very loud and there is snapping like metal getting clipped off a knife blade. ]***

*Wipple enters nursing a wound.*

[Off] Wipple

Gods! Ow! Ouch. Come on!

Nim

You okay?

Wipple

Obviously.

Nim

You're hurt.

Wipple

Obviously. Gods.

Nim

You're okay.

Wipple

It's a bump, just a sting, I guess.

Nim

You're okay.

Wipple

I wish we had ice.

Nim

Long time since we had any. Winter.

Wipple

'Member the skating rink, the one the city put up for us Workers? Watered down that circle and we would go glide anytime we wanted. And Free! Just needed skates. The best. Nim, I miss the winter. This could use some ice.

Nim

You're fine.

Wipple

Whimper.

Nim

Wipple. You're fine.

Wipple

*[She indicates her elbow]*

WHIMPER.

Nim

I guess I can lick it better ... if you want.

Wipple

Uh huh. Would you. Please?

Nim

*[She sticks out her tongue and touches it lightly to Wipple's elbow as if she is drinking Nectar from a flower in full bloom]*

Gross.

Wipple

It feels better.

Nim

Not nice.

Wipple

I appreciate you. Okay. So where is it? You said you had it.

Nim

It's here.

Wipple

Where are we anyway? How did you find this place under the bridge? Are we allowed to be in here?

Nim

I promise it's here but -

Wipple

This place is cool. I've never been anywhere like this before. Why is the Nectar here? How did you get it  
// anyway?

Nim

Whoa. / Slow-

Wipple

Show me the honey.

Nim

I have something you need to see first.

*[Nim walks over to the large object that is wrapped in the drop cloth. She lifts the cloth so that it is revealed to Wipple but remains mostly covered from sight. Wipple is taken aback.]*

I was off work. It was downed so that makes it mine. ... Ours.

Wipple

Is that ... what I think it is?

Nim

A BEE.

Wipple

Gods! A disabled drone. This close.

Nim

Stay Calm.

Wipple

**SFX: The buzzing increases to an audible level for the audience**

*[listening]* It's still buzzing. It's recording!

Nim

It's covered, I had the cloth when I found it, dropped it over its eye, no record.

Wipple

Have you lost your hivemind? Bio Engineered Eyes think! It knows where it is, they send out signals, the city is looking.

Nim

They are not.

Wipple

They are.

Nim

Not.

Wipple

Why didn't you mind your own beeswax for once. Could you just follow the rules ... for once.

Nim

We're safe.

Wipple

You hear it buzzing. CO-MUN-NI-CATE-TING with the source.

Nim

It's been here for a week.

Wipple

A week?

Nim

I waited a full 24 before I even moved near it. No doubt they are searching for it, but they must not know where it is, or how to reach it. I went back to where I found the drone fell and it was still there the next day. Whatever happened to fry the onboard GPS disabled it and, now, down here, I bet, the signals

can't get out even if it fires up. There's like 20 feet of solid rock above us. I waited. It's down. We're deep. We're safe.

*[BEEt]*

Wipple

You are rude. You don't even have the Nectar. You said there was oodles of the stuff to draw me down here and now you present me this crashed BEE. The Nectar is a carrot and you are the stick.

*Wipple begins to exit*

Nim

I have it.

Wipple

Come on.

Nim

Super high quality. Pure.

Wipple

Pure. *[BEEt]* No.

Nim

Medical grade. They give this stuff to the males.

Wipple

That's a myth. Give me some.

Nim

It comes from the other side of The Wall.

Wipple

Lies.

Nim

Truth.

Wipple

You don't want this Nectar?

Nim

I'm off it.

Wipple

This super pure power drink, and you don't want it. That doesn't add up BF. Impossible.

Nim

I stopped. Evicted it. It's been weeks.

Wipple

Not possible.

Nim

I don't take it anymore. Done.

Wipple

Then produce this mythical liquid.

Nim

I have it right here.

*[Nim walks over to the BEE and pulls out a glass jar full of yellow liquid]*

Wipple

So golden.

Nim

Pure. Male.

Wipple

*[Indicates the jar of liquid]* May I?

Nim

You gotta help me first.

Wipple

Just a sip.

Nim

You get that thing operational and eject the core and you can have it.

Wipple

So this is your stash.

Nim

Something like that.

Wipple



Okay, so, let's accept that, let's say it is pure, then let me try a little, to be certain you aren't smoking me out.

Nim

You're interested now.

Wipple

You got nothing to lose for a thimble full.

Nim

If it's top notch - you start it up.

Wipple

Yeah, I can do that, If it is. - And I get the rest?

Nim

Deal.

*She opens the jar.*

*[As the scent of the Nectar enters the mechanical room both Nim and Wipple become erect for a moment. This passes and Nim offers the open jar to Wipple. Wipple sticks out her tongue and touches it to the liquid and reacts as the pure Nectar enters her blood stream.]*

Wipple

God Save the Queen! That's ice cream!

Nim

Buttery.

Wipple

MORE.

Nim

After.

Wipple

Now.

Nim

Later.

Wipple

One more lick.

Nim

Not until we rip that thing apart. I need its Brick.

Wipple

What good is its power source?

Nim

Not your concern.

Wipple

The drone's data is valuable to the Citizens. Just sell it intact on the black market.

Nim

For a fraction.

Wipple

I could set that up. Way safer. Bricks are radioactive.

Nim

That's why I need you. Your expertise. I can't get inside the hull.

Wipple

Not worth the risk.

Nim

No one cares about a dead drone.

**SFX: Loud dance music erupts with a LX: Strobe or Rave Party effect**

*[Nim and Wipple dance.]*

## SCENE

*[A quiet dark room. The Sound From Outside fills the space as light fills enters as if a drape or curtain is pulled back. Revealed is Sam, a fleshy middle-aged man with wild hair sitting at his desk with a laptop computer in front of a cinder block wall in his apartment. He is wearing a brand new baseball cap, freshly pressed collared shirt, and a headset with microphone. In his hands are a weathered spoon and a small battered metal soup pot. He smiles broadly.]*

Sam

Jenny? *[Beat]* Jenny-Jenny-bo-Benny Jennny. *[Beat]* Jenny?

*[Pause]*

*[Sam pulls out his tablet and begins to scroll through applications idly. The sound of a video game advertisement is heard from the tablet. He waits. He begins to play. It is obvious he is extremely good at the game. He looks disgusted. He Stops. He swipes the screen and drops the tablet. He looks worried about the drop. Everything is okay. He looks towards the web camera.]*

**Sam**

Is it goddamn seven o'clock or what? Can't ever be on time. *[Chuckles]* Ever!

**The Mountaineer**

**HELLO OUT THERE.**

**WEATHER REPORT IMMINENT.**

**STAY TUNED.**

*[Sam begins to play percussion on the pot, spoon and table. He sings along. We hear the sound of a person entering the chat room. "BING". Jenny appears in her room via video chat. She is perfectly put together with strands of cloth braided in her hair, manicured eyebrows, excellent eye makeup, lipstick and a light base. She is obviously wearing contact lenses. She has an otherworldly look.]*

**Jenny**

OMG! Thank you for that. Really. Thank you for that!

**Sam**

*[Startled]* My queen arrives.

**Jenny**

Have you considered streaming that? It was full out TikTok-

**Sam**

I've been ... practicing ... but not for that. Is TikTok even the thing people are on now? I thought they shut them down after all that stuff came out. It was being used by another state power to track-

**Jenny**

-For like 2 days. That unfounded shit was like a week ago on Reddit or Parler free speech or some shit. Unfounded, total bullshit, total.

**Sam**

When you say the word "unfounded" I know you have no idea what you're talking about. The mainstream wants you to believe what they want you to believe. No bullshit? Subscribe to The Mountaineer. If that's what you want. BTW - They just sent a notification.

**Jenny**

Turned them off.

*[She absentmindedly opens her phone and accepts the notifications. We hear a series of bings indicating how many notifications were missed.]*

See? Ugh. Off.

**Sam**

Fair. *[Sam begins to type.]* About the TikTok hack - I'm putting a link in the chat.

**Jenny**

-If it's not a cat video – DO NOT SEND.

*[Sam stops.]*

**Sam**

...?

**Jenny**

I'm serious. Cats – Okay. Not Cats: The Mountaineer – NOT OKAY. Okay?

**Sam**

You love The Mountaineer.

**Jenny**

Not.

*[Jenny lifts a glass of wine into view and drinks.]*

**Sam**

Uh. Okay. *[Beat]* Obviously, I prefer dogs 2 to 1 for sure, but if you ask me, cats actually have it figured out best: Nap. Eat. Play. Repeat. Like us! *[Beat]* Did you see the one of the coughing tiger from the zoo?

**Jenny**

Yes. It was cute. Weird-cute... Considering.

**Sam**

Did you even know that a tiger could do that? Did they cough like that // before?

**Jenny**

I didn't even know that animals could cough-

**Sam**

but I guess that makes sense. I guess all animals cough, like us, which, ergo, means they all are, or more likely could be, Spreaders.

**Jenny**

They don't know that.

**Sam**

It is possible.

**Jenny**

They're not sure.

**Sam**

But it's *possible*.

**Jenny**

*But*, they don't know that.

**Sam**

*Sure.*

**Jenny**

They're not sure.

**Sam**

But it's possible.

**Jenny**

That's not what they said.

**Sam**

Which is all I'm say-

**Jenny**

- They didn't say that. So *I'm* saying, "That **THEY** don't know"! That's **NOT** what they actually said, or know, Okay?

*[Silence. Jenny fills her glass with the rest of the wine.]*

**Sam**

Uhhmm.... Okay-

**Jenny**

-Okay.

**Sam**

Okay. *[Beat]* I'm just saying-

**Jenny**

-Don't! *Sam*. Please, Okay? Don't.

**Sam**

I forgot I left the window open....

*[She does not respond. Sam stands up and leans forward toward the camera. He looks over his shoulder // as The Sound From Outside swells out. He grimaces and looks back to Jenny.]*

**The Cellphone**

//Bingbing.

**The Mountaineer**

**CLEARING CONDITIONS**

**ON THE MOUNTAIN LEDGE TODAY**

**DROPS LOW AT SUNSET.**

**Sam**

... It's getting cold in here. I should ...

*[Jenny nods. Sam leaves, tapping a rhythm on the pot with the broken spoon. Jenny pulls out a tablet and K-Pop style music is heard. Sam reappears wearing a reddish brown fox mask with dark ears.]*

**Sam**

My Queen? *[Beat]* How is my Queen? Does your majesty require service from your subjects? May I lick your foot? Nibble your toes? May I sniff your ... ankle? What may I do for you, my Queen? A story? A whip? A crack? A stream? A feast? A kiss? What does my queen require? How may I be of service? I await your judgment.

*[Jenny pulls a courtesan's mask on a handle out from below and places it on her face. Her eyes glow.]*

**Jenny**

We require.... A story.

**Sam**

A story! What kind? A Challenge? A Triumph? A Defeat? A Truth? A Lie?

**Jenny**

Truth... No ... Lie. No. Both. A true lie.

**Sam**

As they always do, my monarch chooses wisely. A Lie! That is True! I have so many. So many to choose from. There's the time... No ... this one is too sad. Or when we... No! Boring! ... Hmmm ... Hmmm ... wait ... I'm thinking...

**Jenny**

Samuel. We are not impressed. You asked, I delivered, now do your job - A Lie that is True! Now!

**Sam**

It was Summer! The air was dry scented with wild flowers. The cubs, and grubs, and chicks were almost flown. The thick grass giving the most delightful pleasure to the soft fur that lay upon it. The bright blue of the sky made the longer days seem like it had always been. The Winter forgotten.

*[Pause]*

**Jenny**

You may continue.

**Sam**

Oh, the heat. The warmth everywhere kept the people rutting and banging and running and stinging and spooning and feeding all night, and all day. And the people were well fed on berries and honeysuckle, plump fish and dark chocolate. There was joy! There was love! There was ease! The Summer had gone on forever. *[Beat]* Then the wisest called for a feast to share the abundance: "Potlach!" Announced the Owl. "Bring your favourite, or best, or simplest, or dimpiest dish to our table so we may celebrate."

*[Sam lays out the table, cooking and preparing everything with the pot and spoon.]*

Oh, how there was cooking and catering, and stirring and pouring, and molding and mounding, broiling and roasting so that each one plate was as better as the next. "Let the Pack share in this wonderful spread. Each one take basil or breast and some bread." said the sweet Chihuahua at the foot of the table. Her jangly collar singing as she spoke. "No.", Replied Tiger Shark, "I do not eat ferns or acorns. The meat should go to me and Bear and Coyote and Hyena. It is our right, we sit at the top. These are our favorites and the ones that we brought! To share would be foolish and put you in danger, stay clear of my plate if you value your paws."

**SCENE**

*[A green smoky haze fills the room. Sam is glued to the notification; he checks in with Jenny through the computer monitor and pulls out an industrial face mask. He rushes to close all windows and doors as she sits motionless. Jenny sparks up a joint, takes a hit, and leaves the online call. Darkness seeps in as Sam returns to the desk].*

**The Cellphone**

*//Bingbing.*

**The Mountaineer**

**LOOKS LIKE A LEVEL**

**4 CLOUD ADVISORY KIDS**

**STAY INSIDE. BE SAFE.**

*[The middle of the night. The Mountaineer's, a man dressed in a goat onesie, face pops into view lit by The Cellphone as they doomscroll in the dark green haze. The Cellphone rings suddenly, sending a beam of rainbow light*

*through the Cloud. The Mountaineer almost drops it and quickly places The Cellphone tenderly onto Sam's Desk. The Mountaineer is swallowed by the haze]*







**Scene**

*[PUPPET SEQUENCE: Light fills the space as if a drape or curtain is pulled back. Revealed is The Mountaineer dangling The Cellphone // in the centre of The Milky Way. The Mountaineer fades back into the stardust. The Cellphone shoots out a triangular hologram // of a grand hall made of marble columns atop a razor sharp cliff. Two burning yellow orange and purple eyes made of grey vapour swirl in the air between the columns and slowly look down. // ]*

**SCENE**

*[Jenny appears in an oversized light, mid-length, white toga and is wrapped in a thin patterned blanket with a pale goat mask on. She moves to the table and sanitizes her hands. Sam enters in only a pair of dark boxer briefs and an elaborate black half mask that leaves his mouth and chin exposed. She tosses him the sanitizer. He thoroughly cleans his hands, moves towards Jenny and she takes the sanitizer away. She sniffs the air as if searching for a scent. He begins to hum and clap percussion. Jenny dances to the beat. As the sound intensifies, her movements pick up tempo and she begins to keener as the search becomes frantic. They make eye contact. // Suddenly we see the rainbow light from The Cellphone erupt from the table.*

**The Cellphone**

*// Bingbing!*

*[They are startled out of their intense connection for a brief moment and share a delirious laugh as they consider the interruption. Jenny looks to the bedroom to consider the location of her phone. // ]*

**The Cellphone**

*// Bingbing!*

*[They connect again as Jenny removes her mask // and pulls Sam into a deep kiss. ]*

**The Cellphone**

*// Bingbing!*

*[In a desperate grasp, he moves her hand into her hair, their palms intertwine]*

*[Darkness]*

**SCENE 6**

*[PUPPET SEQUENCE: The Sound From Outside swells in and out as swirling dark matter circles around The Cellphone as it floats. // Inside the streams of dark matter are billions of stars, nebulae, light and gases. Endless, it takes up the full size of the universe. // Jenny and Sam are gently swept up in the cosmic flow as they become energy. A green and grey mountain shining in sunlight appears as the energy dissolves. // Sam and Jenny fall from the heavens and appear on top of the mountain in each other's arms. //]*

**The Cellphone**

// Bingbing! ... ..

// Bingbing! ... ..

// Bingbing! ... ..

// Bingbing! ... ..

**The Mountaineer**

**WAKY WAKY. EGGS AND BAKEY!**

**CARPE DIEM. SEIZE THIS DAY**

**BUBBLES BURSTING OUT THE WAY**

**CONNECTING'S HARD, SO FAR AWAY**

CONFIDENTIAL