

Antigone

Lulu Raczka, adapted from the text by Sophocles

In Thebes, the war has ended. Antigone and Ismene are sisters. Their brother Polynices is dead and left outside the gates of the city To bury their brother, Antigone must rebel against her uncle King Creon, and break the law. Against this backdrop, Antigone and Ismene dream of dancing, going out, and behaving like teenagers. In this speech, Antigone speaks to Ismene about Haemon, who she is in love with.

ANTIGONE: Ismene.

I know.

But just listen.

So we think about each other

But we never write

And eventually we both forget about each other a little

Not properly-

But like that thing people always say happens

When you get old?

Where you kind of accept that your fantasies won't come true

And you accept reality

So we accept each other as just a dream

Something that's never going to happen

And move on with our lives

And so we fall in love with other people

And we marry other people

And we have kids with other people

But sometimes both of us wake up in the night

And think of each other

But we know it's just a dream

And we make an effort to forget about it

You know?

And get on with our days

But that memory

It won't go

We always find ourselves when we're with our actual

Husbands

And our actual wives

We find ourselves thinking

Is this right?

Would it be better with them?

That person I knew as a child?

And we look at our kids and we think

What would my kids be like

With that person I never got to know

How would they be different?

Would they be kinder

Funnier

Would I love them more?

But as you can imagine

This gets in the way of our lives

So anytime the thought comes up we both fight it

We say no

It's a dream

Move on

Grass is greener and all that

But then one day

I'm travelling

And we're going down the same road

From different directions

And a deer runs into the road

And both of us have to stop

There's a crash

And we both walk into the road

Trying to work out what happened

And we both see this deer

But then we look up -

And I see his figure ahead

And he looks up

And he sees this figure ahead -

And neither of us can see much -

We're far away

But we both get this feeling -

A feeling that says

I know this person

I maybe even know this person better that anyone I've known

For my whole life

And this person who I can't really see

This person knows me better

Than anyone else I've ever known.

Act 1