

Creepy Cafetorium

Author: Justin Weinberger & Colleen AF Venable

Illustrator: Anna-Maria Jung

Scripted by: Riley Dusin & Natalie Robinson

Characters (8):

Narrator

Gertie

Declan

Phyllis

Esme

Joel #1

Joel #2

Mr. Noodlestrudel

Character	Line
Scene 1	
Gertie	I'm Gertie your guide, welcome to Newville Elementary, home of the world's oldest cafetorium. It's half cafeteria, half auditorium, and half gymnasium. You may think that is not mathematically correct. But the cafetorium doesn't follow many rules, even the rules of math.
Narrator	Along with the rules it doesn't follow, sometimes our cafetorium takes things. It's the place missing socks go. You can arrive with two socks on and halfway through gym class think, "Wow, I feel less sock-y than I did a moment ago." Yup. The cafetorium stole one of your socks. But the cafetorium also gives things. For instance, one time the cafetorium gave the entire school and, well, the entire town, the gift of song.
Gertie	This is the story of Declan Jones: a fine musician and lover of numbers who taught his class that a catchy song is a gift that keeps on giving and giving and giving.
Narrator	The cafetorium at Newville elementary could transform into almost anything. But no matter what form it was in, a piano was always there somewhere. And wherever the piano was Declan found it. Declan only ever played one song. Every. Single. Day.
Declan	<i>(Sing)</i> Row, row, row your boat gently down the stream
Gertie	After months of hearing the same song over and over, everyone was sick of hearing the same old song.

Phyllis	<i>(sing)</i> Throw, throw, throw, that piano, gently off a cliff.
Esme	Uh-ohhhhh, the only time Phyllis's jokes made sense was when something creepy was about to happen in the cafetorium.
Joel #1 & Joel #2	Hey what's that sound?
Declan	<i>(singing)</i> Merrily, merrily, merrily, merrily... gently down the...
Joel #2	Can you hear it too?
Esme	Declan, would you stop for a minute, please something creepy is happening. Uhhhh where's Declan?
Narrator	Esme looked right at the piano, but Declan wasn't sitting there. The sound was coming from somewhere else.
Joel #2	Where is Declan now?
Scene 2	
Gertie	Declan decided he needed a break from the piano. He told the nurse that he felt sick, so the nurse sent him home. That's why when lunch time came around the piano sat alone. But somehow the music stilled stayed in everyone's heads. For hours the tune went on and on, over and over.
Joel #1	It's in my head and it's getting worse!
Joel #2	Are going to be like this forever?
Esme	I think we will be okay. Everyone just needs to go home where we can't hear each other. I'm pretty sure that's how we will get it out of our heads.
Mr. Noodlestrudel	No is row, row, row... I mean going anywhere. Remain calm, students. This is a simple case of merrily, merrily... over excited cochlea.
Gertie	Creepy things usually stayed in the cafetorium. But the creepy thing was happening inside of everyone's heads even when they went home.
Scene 3	
Narrator	The students arrived back at school the next day with the same song stuck in their heads.

Joel #1	When will this end?
Phyllis	It will never end!
Gertie	Declan arrived back at school, totally miserable. He hadn't even noticed everything going on around him. He decided to play his song again at lunch.
Declan	<i>(singing)</i> Life is but a dream. Hope you all liked it!
Narrator	The whole cafetorium cheered! Declan had finally finished the song and their minds went quiet.