

FACE PROGRAM

by K. Brian Neel

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CHARACTERS:

Eyes	Dressed very stylish (business-like)
Mouth	Dressed in sultry leather (poetic, French?)
Ears	Dressed in sweats (hip)
Nose	Dressed like a dork (dorky)

SETTING:

The FACE control room of a sixteen year old boy.

NOTE:

The tone is somewhere between NASA and Woody Allen. There are no props or set pieces. The actor positions at “work” should be full-body abstract shapes suggesting their roles, looking strait out over the audience. The bigger the better. The shapes stay at the positions -- there is an eye shape, and ear shape, etc. (They take over each other’s shapes at times.) Improvisation is encouraged.

Eyes, Lips, and Ears enter the control room from all different directions, shaking hands, hugging, etc. They sip coffee. Stretch out. Eyes checks his clipboard occasionally.

EYES: Good evening, Ears.

EARS: What’s up, Eyes? Mouth.

MOUTH: These lips are red rosy, most sweet, and pucker.

EARS: You are awesome, do you know that! I love this guy.

EYES: Where’s Nose?

NOSE: I’m here. I’m here. Sorry I’m late. Feeling a little stuffy today.

EYES: No tears.

NOSE: What’s the evening look like, Eyes? Are we busy?

EYES: Let me check. Oh my sensory brothers, it looks as though we’re going on a date!

ALL: Oh yeah! Awesome. Sweet. (*Etc.*)

MOUTH: To kiss and linger. Perhaps a tip of tongue.

EARS: Damn strait: hopin’. Dat’s all I’m sayin’.

NOSE: I don’t know, I’m kind of runny...

EYES: Let's be on the ball, everyone. Let's get that kiss!

EARS: Anyone seen Skin?

NOSE: He wasn't in the pancreas.

ALL: *(calling off)* Skin! Skin! *(Etc.)*

MOUTH: Without buds to entice a bee, a silky taunt, not for we.

EYES: Oh dear retina, we're a go in thirty seconds!

They rush to take positions at their respective stations.

NOSE: We can't go without Skin.

EARS: He's probably hanging out with extremity operations. As usual.

NOSE: It's where he belongs, technically speaking.

EARS: Damn budget cuts! I tell ya, we'll all end up in the rectum.

EYES: We'll all have to cover for Skin.

ALL: Awe, man! Come on! Seriously! *(Etc.)*

NOSE: Was that a pun?

EARS: I can't listen *and* touch at the same time.

NOSE: "Have to Cover?" For Skin? Oh, never mind.

EYES: What else are we gonna do? Positions in ten. We have confirmation from motor function. Getting a thumbs up from control. Impulse systems are dialed down. We're online in five. Four. Three.

He hand signals: Two and One.

EYES: We're at the front door. Red door.

EARS: Birds are chirping.

Long pause. They all look at each other...

ALL: *(mouthing to each other)* What's going on?

EYES: Motor function is down. Cover for Skin. Nose.

Nose reluctantly moves to the Skin position.

NOSE: Oh great, get the underused sense to do it. He doesn't do anything. *(in Skin position.)* Knocking on door.

EYES: Door movement. Mother figure.

MOUTH: Greetings and salutations.

EYES: Entering living room.

EARS: Classical music.

NOSE: (*rushing back to Nose position.*) Hint of sour kraut.

They all roll their eyes at Nose.

EYES: Girl in sight. It's Gloria. Oh... my... goodness. Low cut dress. Don't look. Don't look.

MOUTH: Keeping lips closed.

EYES: Look at the face. Look at the face. Loosing control... Looking. Starring!

MOUTH: Mouth open!

EYES: Can't look away!

MOUTH: Salivating!

EYES: Closing. Closing. Shut.

Eyes drop position. He can't handle it. Ears breaks position.

EARS: Eyes. Get it together! Come on, man!

Eyes take a deep breath and re-join.

EYES: Eyes opening. Carpet. White shag. Looking... up.

MOUTH: (*saving the day.*) Smiling.

ALL: Good save. Nice one. Well done Lips. (*etc.*)

NOSE: Perfume. Nominal reading.

They all roll their eyes at Nose and moan.

EYES: Something's happening. Nose. (*motions to skin position.*)

NOSE: I'm going. (*he goes.*) Hand holding. Cold hand.

EYES: Leaving house. Walking to car.

MOUTH: Conversation. Awkward.

NOSE: (*at Skin*) Getting door.

EARS: Creaking.

NOSE: Other door.

VAUD RATS by K. Brian Neel

EARS: Creaking. Slam. Slam.

NOSE: Turning key.

EARS: Revving.

NOSE: Maneuvering.

EYES: Driveway. Road.

MOUTH: Conversation.

EYES: Road. Road.

MOUTH: Conversation.

EYES: Road. Gloria. Road.

MOUTH: Engaging conversation.

EYES: Gloria. Road. Gloria.

MOUTH: Funny joke. Laughing.

EYES: Gloria. Gloria. Gloria. Gloria.

EARS: SCREAMING!

EYES: ROAD!

Pause.

MOUTH: Awkward laugh.

NOSE: *(back in Nose position.)* Burnt rubber.

Eyes motion to Nose to get back to Skin.

EARS: Silence. Awkward silence. Very awkward silence.

EYES: Arriving at restaurant. Parking.

EARS: Creak. Slam. Creak. Slam. Steps. Steps. Steps.

EYES: Door opening.

EARS: Hubub. Hubub. Hubbub. Hubbub.

EYES: Sitting. Gloria.

MOUTH: Smiling. Smiling. Smiling too long. Searching for conversation...
connecting to conversation. Asking question.

EARS: Listening.

EYES: Menu.

MOUTH: Ordering. Back to conversation.

NOSE: *(at skin)* Pouring tea.

EARS: Listening.

MOUTH: Sipping tea. Hot. Hot.

NOSE: Getting ice water.

MOUTH: Ice water. Ice. Cooling off. Cooling. Cooler. Tepid. And...
swallowing.

EYES: Dinner is served.

Nose races back to his natural position.

NOSE: Traces of Asian spices...

They all roll their eyes at Nose and moan.

NOSE: *(persevering)* cumin, curry, chili, Galangal, notes of lemon grass,
turmeric, peanuts, nutmeg and chocolate.

He runs back to the Skin position.

NOSE: Operating cutlery.

MOUTH: Tasting. Mmmmmmm. Mmmmm. Uh oh. Spice. Spicy!

EYES: Watering. *(repeating.)*

MOUTH: Burning. *(repeating.)*

NOSE: Forehead sweating. *(He races back to Nose position.)* Nose running.
(back.) Upper lip sweating. *(forth.)* Nose running. *(back.)* Top of head
sweating.

EYES: Crying.

MOUTH: Breathing.

Ears take over for Nose at Skin position, saving the day.

EARS: Wiping eyes, wiping upper lip, wiping forehead, wiping mouth. Putting
rice in mouth...

MOUTH: Coughing...

EARS: Into napkin.