MAGIC GARDEN

BY

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CHARACTERS
Ramon, Michael, Freddy The Fly, Sun, Cloud, Soybean Plant, Orange Tree, Piggy, Henny, Cowie, Almond Tree, 3 Hens, Bird, Elephant, Narrator

Important Note by the “playwright.” ALL and when I say ALL, I mean ALL the stage directions are to be read out loud including this one you are now reading. You’ll see the reason why soon, or, you may not, but please read them anyway.

Song: The Magic Garden (from the Children’s Show) plays.

Lights rise in a Brooklyn walk up railroad apartment. The apartment is full of vegetation. It resembles a farm. Trees of all kinds of fruits stand proudly. Plants cover up the complete ceiling. Farm animals are also milling about -- a cow, pig, chicken or hen and a farm mouse. Oh, yeah, the chirping of happy birds can be heard singing their morning songs. A picnic table sits center stage. Ramon enters. He having an incredible long yawn. The kind of yawn that comes from a person who has rested as much as Rip Van Winkle without the worries. He wears overalls and has a beard that’s wouldn’t be socially acceptable unless he was under quarantine, which he is.

RAMON

Good morning everyone!

EVERY PLANT AND ANIMAL

Good morning, Ramon.

BIRD
(any kind, it doesn’t matter)
It’s a beautiful morning. Look how sunny it is.

RAMON
I love the sun.

EVERY PLANT AND ANIMAL
We know you do even when it’s cloudy.

RAMON
Especially when it’s cloudy.

EVERY PLANT AND ANIMAL
Why especially when it’s cloudy?

RAMON
No specific reason. Just thought it was a nice thing to say. I do like clouds.

CLOUD
I love you too, Ramon. And the sun apologizes for not being able to welcome you on this day because he has to bring light to central planes and he woke up late today and galactic traffic was to die for. But he told me to tell you that it’s going to be sunny today. All day!

RAMON
Sun’s work is never done.

Orange Tree’s branch offers Ramon a glass of orange juice.

ORANGE TREE
Here’s a glass of fresh orange juice just of the tree.

RAMON
Thank you, Mr. Orange Tree. You are the best.
(takes a sip)
Delicious! The way orange juice was meant to be.

Piggy the pig, Cowie the cow, and Henny the hen enter wearing a chef’s hats.

PIGGY/ COWIE/HENNY
Here’s breakfast!

COWIE
I have milk for your coffee and cheese.
ALMOND TREE
Almond milk. We know you’re lactose intolerant.

(everyone laughs)

PIGGY
And we have bacon for you.

SOYBEAN PLANT
Soybean bacon.

PIGGY
So glad you don’t eat pork.

(everyone laughs)

PIGGY
I wasn’t trying to be funny guys.

EVERY PLANT AND ANIMAL
We know. We are sorry for laughing at your pain.

PIGGY
(cries)
It’s okay. I know you guys don’t mean any harm. It’s that my ancestors suffered so much, especially in the mornings. They were part of every breakfast plate. I’m so grateful the world has changed.

HENNY
And here are your eggs the way you like them. From my egg white Hen friends.

Three hens peek in.

RAMON
Thank youuuuuu!

THREE HENS
You are welcomeeeeee!

Freddy The Fly enters. He’s at least six foot five inches tall. And he’s also a lefty. This detail isn’t
that important except to the playwright. The actor can be rightly for it doesn’t really matter. Like I said, except to the playwright. Maybe Because Steve Carlton was a tall lefty pitcher and he made the Hall Of Fame. And what does baseball have to do with this play, you may ask? Well absolutely nothing. Anyway, just get a six-foot five lefty actor to play Freddy.

FREDDY

I’m so hungry I can eat an elephant.

ELEPHANT

(peeks head in)
Not funny Freddy.

FREDDY

I apologize to all the elephants in the world. Anyway, I’m hungry.

The Sun enters singing.

SUN

Good morning starshine
The sun says hello
You twinkle above us
We twinkle below

The choreography consists of Jamaican Twerking. It doesn’t really go with the song but that’s what the “playwright?” really wants.

EVERY PLANT AND ANIMAL AND NATURAL BEING

(singing)

Gliddy gloop gloopy
Nibby nobby nooby
La la la lo lo
Sabba sibby sabba
Nooby abba dabba
Le le lo lo
dooby ooby walla
dooby abba dabba
Early morning singing song

RAMON
Hey, Sun, what are you doing here? I thought you were gliding late across the sky late? If you know what I mean?

SUN
I just paid some clouds to cover up the Midwest. Man, it’s going to rain cats and dogs all day.

Sound of cats meowing and dogs barking are heard.

RAMON
Would you like something to eat?

SUN
Well, yes, thank you.

Loud fireworks are heard. It lights up Ramon’s apartment. Everyone except for the Sun and Ramon are afraid.

PIGGY/COWIE/HENNY
What in the world is that?

RAMON
Seems like... firecrackers.

PIGGY/COWIE/HENNY
Never heard of such thing.

FREDDY
Is it something like a firefly?

PIGGY/COWIE/HENNY
Like millions of fireflies.

FREDDY
Why would they blow up millions of fireflies. I have family that married fireflies. And they are the best of bugs. So I don’t understand.

RAMON
It isn’t fireflies.
EVERY PLANT AND ANIMAL AND NATURAL BEING

Then what is it?

RAMON
Fireworks. They are usually used for a celebration.

EVERY PLANT AND ANIMAL AND NATURAL BEING

What is being celebrated?

RAMON
I don’t know. Celebrations have been cancelled for such a long time. I can’t remember the last one

There’s a loud knock on the door. Everyone jumps.

EVERY PLANT AND ANIMAL AND NATURAL BEING

What’s that sound?

RAMON
I think it’s like a loud knock.

Another loud knock is heard.

EVERY PLANT AND ANIMAL AND NATURAL BEING

What do we do?

MICHAEL (V.O)
RAMON. OPEN THE DOOR!

EVERY PLANT AND ANIMAL

Who is that?

MICHAEL (V.O)
It’s me Michael. Your friend! Remember me?

EVERY PLANT AND ANIMAL AND NATURAL BEING

Who’s Michael?

RAMON
Someone I knew a long time ago.

MICHAEL (V.O)
I know you’re in there. I just heard you.

EVERY PLANT AND ANIMAL AND NATURAL BEING
What are you going to do?

Ramon opens the door. Michael enters grabbing Ramon and giving him a HUGE hug. Michael has a nice haircut and no beard. He’s dressed as if just came back or is going to a party. Everyone looks stares at Michael like if he was from another planet. Oh, yeah, before I forget, the other thing is that the animals freeze like if they are plastic animal toys.

MICHAEL
We made it Ramon. We made it to the other side. I thought you were... You know. I mean you didn’t return the emails. You phone was disconnected. I couldn’t take the train to come check up on you. I thought you were... GONE.
(sobs but quickly stops)
Get dressed. We are going to the celebration. But first you have to shave that beard off.
Civilization is back baby.

RAMON
What celebration.

MICHAEL
What celebration he asks? The virus is dead! We can have our lives back.

RAMON
Lives back?

MICHAEL
Yes, Yes. You are a playwright. Remember we were going to put up your play, then it came. The virus that is. We’re going to put up your play. People can’t wait to go back to the theater. I can wait to get back on stage. FIGARO! FIGARO! FIGAROOOO!

Freddy the Fly lands on Ramon’s shoulder. Well, not really because Freddy is 6’5”. But you know what I mean? Besides he’s taller than Ramon. Michael sees him.
Wait don’t move.

Michael picks up a newspaper that magically appears, folds it and goes to bash poor Freddy’s head in. Everyone screams but Michael is deaf to the screams. He chases Freddy around the set.

What are you doing? STOP!

That fly was sitting well standing next to you. How tall is he? About...

Steve Carlton’s height.

Lefty?

That too.

Impressive. But I’m still going to kill him.

You can’t kill Freddy.

You gave him a name, too? What not Steve?

(Ramon shrugs)

Wait a minute. What in the world is going on here? You look like you have a farm here. And what’s with these large toy animals?

What do you mean?

Look at that plastic cow? And the pig. And is that the sun on your wall? Ramon, explain.
RAMON
Nothing to explain. These are all my friends.

MICHAEL
I can see that. I had my share of conversations with objects. I mean the quarantine lasted a very long time.

He doesn’t know how because he lost track of time. That’s why he says “long time” rather than give specific years.

RAMON
They’re not imaginary.

MACHAEL
Do they talk back to you, Ramon? Because talking to them isn’t crazy but them talking to you is. And what is that sun doing in your apartment?

RAMON
Nah, they don’t talk back.

MACHAEL
And who are you talking to right now?

RAMON
To them. And yes they talk back.

MACHAEL
Well, the way I see it. You have a HUGE. HUGE decision to make, Ramon.

RAMON
Does he?
RAMON
Guys let him speak. They don’t like you and they like everybody.

MICHAEL
Like I was saying. You have a...

EVERY PLANT AND ANIMAL AND NATURAL BEING
HUUGEEEEE!
(Ramon laughs)

MICHAEL
Huge decision to make.

RAMON
And what may that be?

MICHAEL
Whether you’re going to stay here with your imaginary friends or are you going to go out those doors into the real world? That’s the decision.

NARRATOR – STAGE DIRECTIONS
This is when the “playwright?” has to step in and finish this play. And said “playwright?” will do something he hates when other playwrights do it. He’s going to leave it to the audience to decide what Ramon is going to do. Is Ramon going to talk out those doors and join the real yet imaginary life of everyday people or is he going to stay with the imaginary friends yet real life of his imagination. The “playwright?” understand there’s a much better way to say this but because of his lack of time given that yesterday was his birthday and that he drank too much wine making him sleepy, he won’t be able to improve upon it. Make your decision. Playwright out!