

Start

All

APRIL

Hey what's this?

(April pulls a bag full of coins from beneath her chair.)

EMILY

I have one too.

ANNIE

We all do.

YITZHAK

(Pulling out a sword)

Whoaaa cool.

GREG

I have a crown.

(To the game overlords)

The password is Crown. (nothing) King. (Nothing) King hat.

MISSY

Somebody let us out of here!

(Others yell similarly. There is no response. Emily walks to the edge of the stage. Looks down.)

ELIZA

There's...a cliff.

CHARLETTE

What?

ELIZA

An edge, the floor just stops right here.

CHARLETTE

She's right.

ELIZA

Wait! Look here.

CHARLETTE

What am I looking at?

ELIZA

Let your eyes adjust.

(Pause.)

See them?

CHARLETTE

Who are all those people?!

YITZHAK

What people?

EMILY

See, there's all those people out there.

MICHAEL

I see them...It almost looks like...

ANNIE

An audience...?

(Pause.)

GREG

(To the audience)

The password is king hat.

CHARLETTE

It's not an escape the room, Greg.

GREG

Well there must be some way out.

(A moment. Then suddenly)

MICHAEL

(To Eliza)

How now Ophelia, what's the matter?

ELIZA

What are you doing?

MICHAEL

How now Ophelia, what's the matter?

MISSY

Oh, don't start that again.

ELIZA

Stop joking around, we have to get out of here.

MICHAEL

Didn't you listen to the voice?

ELIZA

What?

MICHAEL

How now Ophelia, what's the matter?

ANNIE

(Dawning on her.)

Hamlet...

MICHAEL

This is Hamlet.

GREG

What are you talking about?

MICHAEL

Didn't you ever read Hamlet in High school?

GREG

Of course, but what does that have to do with any-

MICHAEL

(Cutting him off)

Listen. That voice we just heard, all those words...That's what the ghost says in Act I of Hamlet. Murder most foul... revenge his most unnatural murder...I am thy father's spirit! It's all in the actual text.

ANNIE

He's right.

MICHAEL

Look at your props. A crown for King Claudius. A sword for Hamlet or maybe Laertes. Coin purses for...well I don't know who yet but we'll find out.

ANNIE

Put it all together. A mysterious voice talks to us in the words of Hamlet's Father. We're on what looks like a stage. There's an audience out there..

YITZHAK

I just played Hamlet.

ANNIE

Right.

GREG

Wait...What?

CHARLETTE

I don't understand. What does this have to do with us?

APRIL

Is someone trying to hurt us, Mommy?

ANNIE

No, honey, I'm sure we'll be fine.

YITZHAK

Maybe that's why there aren't any doors..

MISSY

What do you mean?

YITZHAK

What if we're supposed to put on Hamlet, and they won't let us leave until we do?

MICHAEL

The play's already started, and we have to finish it.

GREG

How are we going to finish Hamlet? They can't possibly expect us all to know it by heart?

(Pause. They all look at each other, then in unison they pull out their cell phones and start typing into them presumably "complete text of hamlet". Maybe one asks Siri to do it for him/her.)

ELIZA

What do we do now? Where are we in the play?

*end*