**Act 2, Scene 1: The King’s Planet**

Creative Directors: Stephanie & Kiera

*Staging: sand-dunes should be covered;*

*The top of a broad ‘dome’ should be created (if possible).*

*Lighting: Special FX Galaxy Light (Jake will bring) sits behind the ‘planet’ casting light in a 270 degree arc (covered at front by the planet so that lights do not shine directly in audience’s eyes).*

*Music fades out.*

*Light on Narrator (for the first/only time for Act 2 – until the end)*

NARRATOR: And so The Little Prince found himself in the neighbourhood of the Asteroids 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, and 330. He began, therefore, by visiting them, in order to add to his knowledge.

*Lights off Narrator.*

*Lights dim on the Old Narrator, and a light is put onto the King’s planet. The Little Prince ‘flies’ onto the King’s planet with strings attached to a flock of birds. He steps onto the planet and ties the bird balloons down for the time being.*

*The rest of the stage is dark except for the King’s planet. The King’s planet will have a lower step where the Little Prince will stand/sit, so it displays the King’s supposed power and authority.*

THE KING: *(thrusts his hands forward.)*

Ah! Here is a subject

THE LITTLE PRINCE: (*he looks confused and speaks to himself*)

How could he recognize me when he had never seen me before?

THE KING: (*looks proud)*

Approach, so that I may see you better

*TLP looks for a place to sit down but struggles to find a spot because the planet is crammed with the King’s coat. He remains standing. He yawns.*

It is contrary to etiquette to yawn in the presence of a king. I forbid you to do so.

THE LITTLE PRINCE: (*embarrassed*)

I can’t help it. I can’t stop myself. I have come on a long journey, and I have had no sleep.

THE KING: (*the King is also a bit embarrassed but tries to hide it.)*

Ah, then, I order you to yawn. It is years since I have seen anyone yawning. Yawns, to me, are objects of curiosity. Come now! Yawn again! It is an order.

THE LITTLE PRINCE: (*murmurs, abashed*)

That frightens me . . . I cannot, any more.

THE KING: (*still embarrassed.)*

Hum! Hum! Then I—I order you to—  
(*he sputters and seems vexed. There is a little pause*.)   
(*King demands authority in his manner but also tries to be kind and reasonable*)

If I ordered a general to change himself into a seabird, and if the general did not obey me, that would not be the fault of the general. It would be my fault.

THE LITTLE PRINCE: (*inquires timidly*)

May I sit down?

THE KING: *(he gathers some of his ermine coat so there is room for the prince to sit.)*

I order you to do so.

THE LITTLE PRINCE: *(looks around at the small planet)*

Sire, I beg that you excuse me for asking this question—

THE KING: (*scrambles to order him to do so*)

I order you to ask me a question.

THE LITTLE PRINCE:

Sire—over what do you rule?

THE KING: ( *proudly*)

Over everything.

THE LITTLE PRINCE:

Over everything?

*The King gestures to his planet, all of the other planets, and all of the starts (the stage and everything around him)*

THE LITTLE PRINCE:

Over all that?

THE KING:

Over all that.

THE LITTLE PRINCE:

And the stars obey you?

THE KING:

Certainly they do. They obey instantly. I do not permit insubordination.

THE LITTLE PRINCE: *(the prince is marvelled. He plucks the courage to ask another question)*

I should like to see a sunset… Do me that kindness… Order the sun to set…

THE KING:

If I ordered a general to fly from one flower to another like a butterfly, or to write a tragic drama, or to change himself into a sea bird, and if the general did not carry out the order that he had received, which one of us would be in the wrong? The general, or myself?

THE LITTLE PRINCE: (he says firmly)

You.

THE KING:

Exactly. One must require from each one the duty which each one can perform. Accepted authority rests first of all on reason. If you ordered your people to go and throw themselves into the sea, they would rise up in revolution. I have the right to require obedience because my orders are reasonable.

THE LITTLE PRINCE: (the prince insists)

Then my sunset?

THE KING:

You shall have your sunset. I shall command it. But, according to my science of government, I shall wait until conditions are favourable.

THE LITTLE PRINCE:

When will that be?

THE KING:

Hum! Hum! (He consults a bulky almanac)

Hum! Hum! That will be about--about--that will be this evening about twenty minutes to eight. And you will see how well I am obeyed!

THE LITTLE PRINCE: (*the prince yawns. He is beginning to be a little bored.)*

I have nothing more to do here. So I shall set out on my way again.

THE KING:

Do not go—Do not go. I will make you a Minister!

THE LITTLE PRINCE:

Minister of what?

THE KING:

Minister of--of Justice

THE LITTLE PRINCE:

But there is nothing here to judge!

THE KING:

We do not know that. I have not yet made a complete tour of my kingdom. I am very old. There is no room here for a carriage. And it tires me to walk.

THE LITTLE PRINCE:

Oh, but I have looked already! (he turns around to give one more glance to the other side of the planet.)

THE KING:

Then you shall judge yourself. That is the most difficult thing of all. It is much more difficult to judge oneself than to judge others. If you succeed in judging yourself rightly, then you are indeed a man of true wisdom.

THE LITTLE PRINCE:

Yes, but I can judge myself anywhere. I do not need to live on this planet.

THE KING:

Hum! Hum! I have good reason to believe that somewhere on my planet there is an old rat. I hear him at night. You can judge this old rat. From time to time you will condemn him to death. Thus his life will depend on your justice. But you will pardon him on each occasion; for he must be treated thriftily. He is the only one we have.

THE LITTLE PRINCE:

I, do not like to condemn anyone to death. And now I think I will go on my way.

(*the Little Prince prepares for departure and unties his birds.)*

THE KING: (*becoming desperate.)*

No.

THE LITTLE PRINCE:

If Your Majesty wishes to be promptly obeyed, he should be able to give me a reasonable order. He should be able, for example, to order me to be gone by the end of one minute. It seems to me that conditions are favourable . . .

*(the King doesn’t reply. He is embarrassed and sad*)

*(the Little Prince hesitates for a moment. He then sighs and leaves.)*

THE KING: (*calls out hastily as the Little Prince is flying away, with a proud air of authority.)*

I make you my Ambassador.

THE LITTLE PRINCE: (*he speaks to himself, now further away from the King.)*

The grown-ups are very strange.

*(the lights dim and the Little Prince walks off the stage as the King remains still.)*

**Act 2, Scene 2: Casino Planet**Creative Directors: Grace, Nina, Lily.

*Background Casino sound FX/Music. There are bright lights flashing different colours. Some big dice sit in a corner and there are three people (gamblers) on the stage. GAMBLER 1 is at a pokie machine and GAMBLER 2 and 3 are sitting at a table playing cards/ or throwing dice – Director’s choice.*

TLP: *(Enters the planet and looks around. Goes over to gambler 1, who is standing at the pokie machine.)*

What are you doing?

GAMBLER 1: (*standing at the Pokie machine pressing buttons and talking to themselves.)*

I’m going to win.

*(frowns in concentration.).*

TLP:

Going to win what?

GAMBLER 1:

Money! I’m going to be rich!

TLP: *(Confused)*

Why do you need to be rich?

GAMBLER 1: *(Looks at TLP like he’s crazy)*

Uh, because, then I’ll be happy.

TLP: *(Confused)*

Oh. Why, how much does happiness cost?

GAMBLER 1:

Ummmmmmm

*Gambler 1 looks dumbstruck. One of the gamblers (GAMBLER 2) at the table cheers and throws their cards in the air.*

TLP: (*goes over to the table and excitedly asks...)*

What happened?

GAMBLER 2: *(Beaming)*

I won!

*(Jumps up and starts doing a victory dance)*

TLP: *(Looking confused and overloaded)*

What? What did you win!?

GAMBLER 2:

The game!

*(Grabs TLP by the hands and starts dancing around)*

I beat the system! They all said I wouldn’t win, but I showed them!

*(GAMBLER 3, who has just lost the card game gets up, knocking his chair over, and storms off the stage. GAMBLER 2 sits back down with a happy sigh.)*

GAMBLER 2: *(addressing TLP)*

Hey you, come and play. Then you can win more money and be happy like me!

TLP: (*point after Gambler 3)*

He didn’t look very happy.

GAMBLER 2: Of course not – I beat him.

TLP: Why can’t you both be happy?

GAMBLER 2: That’s not how gambling works.

(*gives a malicious grin)*

So, do you want to try your luck?

TLP: No, thank you.

*(TLP leaves the table. He says to himself:)*

These adults certainly have funny ideas about happiness – none of them looks very happy.

I am happy… I wonder if that means I am rich?

*Grabs his birds and ‘flies’ off the side of the stage.*

*Music starts – perhaps a different sort of mood or style, to signify the mood of Act 2: gaining experience and life-lessons.*

**SET-CHANGE: start preparing Technology Planet**

**Act 2, Scene 3: Technology Planet**

Creative Directors: Indigo, Katelyn, Julie.

*Music fades out as lights come up on a very drab, dim and colourless world.*

*Three phone screens are clearly visible on-stage (they provide all the lighting?); each character is space apart, looking away from each other.*

*TLP walks onto planet and looks around, slightly confused.*

TLP: *(Peers at one of the people expectantly)*

Hello?

*(There is no answer)*

What are you doing?

*(Still no answer)*

*(TLP taps person #1 on the shoulder, and talks into their face)*

Hello?!

PERSON #1: *(Speaks very unenthusiastically)*

Yup.

*(Looks back down at phone)*

TLP: *(Taps person #1’s shoulder again)*

What are you doing?

PERSON #1:

Oh, I didn’t notice you there.

TLP:

But – what are you doing?

PERSON #1

Why, I am talking to my friends.

TLP:

Really? But your planet is silent, there is no sound of laughter or talk. On my….

*(****Phone notifies loudly****, interrupting TLP)*

PERSON #1: *(Looks back down at phone. Frowns and texts back. Silence with only the tapping of their foot.)*

TLP:

What is the matter?

PERSON #1:

My friend is not replying, but they’ve seen my text.

TLP:

Is that a problem?

PERSON #1:

They must not have liked what I said.

TLP:

Well why don’t we be friends?

PERSON #1: *(smiles, as if acknowledging TLP for first time )*

OK, I’ll add you – then I will have 1,001 friends!

*(Typing* ***sounds****)*

I can’t find you.

TPL:

I’m right here

PERSON #1:

Oh no no no, I can’t find you on my list.

TLP:

What is your list?

PERSON #1:

My list of friends.

Well I suppose we can’t be friends then.

TLP: *(to himself/audience)*

For someone with 1,000 friends, they did not seem very happy. If I had 1,000 friends I suppose I too would not have much time to be friends with anyone.

People can be very odd.

(*Grabs his birds and flies away)*

*Music kicks-in.*

**SET-CHANGE: BLUE PLANET**

**Act 2, Scene 4: Blue Planet**

Creative Directors: Erica, Matilda

*Mellow music (cello?) plays quietly under dialogue.*

*Lights on Narrator, who looks out at audience, with a grave expression.*

NARRATOR: It was on the fourth planet that The Little Prince discovered that the adult world is not always ridiculous and that it is not all numbers and figures, but emotion too.

*Music fades out. Lights dim on study and brighten on mid stage where blue planet is, sad person sits alone on opposite side of planet. The Little Prince enters.)*

LITTLE PRINCE: *(goes up to sad person)*

Hello!

SAD PERSON: *(they look up sadly, speaks in slow mellow tone)*

Hello…

LITTLE PRINCE: Why do you look so lonely?

SAD PERSON: Well, no one wants to stay with me.

LITTLE PRINCE: Why?

SAD PERSON: They say I am too sad…

LITTLE PRINCE: Are you sad?

*(Sad person shrugs and looks down)*

LITTLE PRINCE: (*who seems to understand*)

*Why* are you sad?

SAD PERSON: I always feel so sad, that I have forgotten what happiness feels like. I want to remember; I really, really do.

LITTLE PRINCE: How did you become so sad?

SAD PERSON: I used to have friends… They had to leave.

LITTLE PRINCE: Why did they leave you?

SAD PERSON: I can’t remember. They just sort of drifted away. But it does not matter now, because you can be my friend.

LITTLE PRINCE: I would love to be your friend, but unfortunately I cannot stay, I must explore the universe.

*(silent pause on stage)*

On my planet I have a special rose, she makes me happy. I will draw you a special flower too, a yellow one! She will love you and you will love her. She will be your purpose and your hope. She will be the reason that you will smile every day because looking at her will be like the sun smiling back at you!

*(Little Prince draws flower on a piece of paper that he pulls from his coat. Flower grows on planet as the prince draws it…*

***chimes sound****. Sad person looks grateful; still a little sad but with a small smile on their face.)*

LITTLE PRINCE: Now I must continue my journey. Goodbye!

SAD PERSON: Goodbye! And Thank You.

*(Sad person looks more cheerful as they wave goodbye.*

*Flower sways as if waving too.)*

*Music: less melancholy, starts up to bridge to next scene.*

**SET-CHANGE: FLATLAND**

**Act 2, Scene 5: Coalminer’s Planet**

Creative Directors: Liam, Edyn, Oscar

*(Lights go on. Enter TLP. On the coal planet, a man is digging his planet away for coal. There is half a planet left. A giant lamp is burning. A man is digging coal.)*

THE LITTLE PRINCE

Hello.

COAL MINER *(digging)*

Wassuppppp old mate.

THE LITTLE PRINCE

Why is there only half a planet here?

COAL MINER

Because I dug the other half away searching for coal.

THE LITTLE PRINCE

Why do you have to do that?

COAL MINER (*Sadly)*

To keep the light on so I can see where I’m digging, and so the other people on the planet can see.

THE LITTLE PRINCE *(questioning)*

I don’t understand? You will dig away your whole planet if you keep going like this.

COAL MINER

Well so be it. But you see, my orders are to keep digging and to keep giving light to the planet. If I don’t, there will be no light, and then I will not be able to see what I’m doing. So if you’ll excuse me, I need to get back to work, the coal will not dig itself. Gooday!

THE LITTLE PRINCE: *(wonderingly)*

He seemed like a good man. But his actions make little sense. I hope he will come to his senses, and perhaps find another way to power his light.

*Grabs his birds and flies away as,*

*Music starts.*

*Lights go black.*

**SET CHANGE: FLATLAND/GEOGRAPHER’S PLANET**

**Act 2, Scene 6 – FLATLAND**

*The stage is lit a normal “round” looking planet with a singular person who is thoroughly convinced that their planet is FLAT.*

*Music fades out as Little Prince enters on his birds. Hitches them and approaches Geographer, who is sitting at a desk.*

GEOGRAPHER: (*quiet ticking sound coming from the desk.)*

(*muttering to themselves then suddenly looks up)*

Oh look, here is an explorer!

*Little Prince sits down on chair panting from exhaustion, wipes forehead.*

GEOGRAPHER: where do you come from?

THE LITTLE PRINCE: (*the little prince stands up and looks over the desk at the book)*

What is that big book?

(*he walks across to the pile of books on the other side of the desk and starts looking through the books piled up)*

What are you doing?

GEOGRAPHER: I am a geographer.

THE LITTLE PRINCE: What is a geographer?

GEOGRAPHER :

A geographer is a scholar who knows the location of all the seas, rivers, towns, mountains, and deserts.

THE LITTLE PRINCE: That is very interesting!

(*the little prince looks around )*

Your planet is very beautiful, Has it any oceans?

GEOGRAPHER: I couldn't tell you.

THE LITTLE PRINCE: Oh…

(*says TLP disappointedly and sits back down on the chair )*

Has it any mountains?

GEOGRAPHER: I couldn't tell you that, either.

THE LITTLE PRINCE: How big is your planet then?

GEOGRAPHER: (*half stands up out of chair and points to each side of his planet)*

Well, its 2 meters north, 2 meters south, 2 meters east and 2 meters west! Equals (*scribbles with a pencil)* 16 metres squared

THE LITTLE PRINCE: (*looking around the planet confusedly )*

But what about the other sides of your planet?

GEOGRAPHER:

Other sides? What other sides? All planets are flat! Just like a coin!

( *shows TLP a coin* )

THE LITTLE PRINCE:

What do you mean, planets are flat? Planets are all round!

GEOGRAPHER: Round? Planets are NOT round! They are flat. Here, see?

(*pulls map or diagram of flat planet out from behind his desk to show the little prince then points to flat globe)*

THE LITTLE PRINCE*: ( stands up angrily clenching his fists)*

But I walk around my planet every-day!

GEOGRAPHER: (*also stands up and waves arms around a bit )*

Well you are probably just walking around in a circle!

THE LITTLE PRINCE:

I walk around my planet constantly, so that I can watch the sunset as many times as I like.

GEOGRAPHER:

Sunsets! – Pish Posh – does your planet have any *real* geographical features?

*( sits back in his chair to listen )*

THE LITTLE PRINCE: *( sits back down and crosses arms )*

Oh, well my planet is not very interesting. It is all so small. I have three volcanoes. Two volcanoes are active and the other is extinct. But one never knows when a volcano will wake up again.

GEOGRAPHER: (*writing down notes)*

Volcanoes, yes, very interesting.

THE LITTLE PRINCE: (*excitedly*)

Oh, but I also have a flower.

GEOGRAPHER: We do not record flowers.

THE LITTLE PRINCE:

Why is that? The flower is the most beautiful thing on my planet!

GEOGRAPHER:

We do not record them, because they are ephemeral.

THE LITTLE PRINCE: What does that mean--'ephemeral'?

GEOGRAPHER:

Geographies, are the books which, of all books, are most concerned with matters of consequence. They never become old-fashioned. It is very rarely that a mountain changes its position. It is very rarely that an ocean empties itself of its waters. We write of eternal things.

THE LITTLE PRINCE: (*interrupting)*

But extinct volcanoes may wake up again… What does that mean-- 'ephemeral'?"

GEOGRAPHER:

Whether volcanoes are extinct or alive, it comes to the same thing for us. The thing that matters to us is the mountain. It does not change.

THE LITTLE PRINCE: But what does that mean--'ephemeral'?"

GEOGRAPHER:

It means, 'which is in danger of speedy disappearance.'

THE LITTLE PRINCE: (*looking alarmed)*

Is my flower in danger of speedy disappearance?

GEOGRAPHER: Well certainly it is.

THE LITTLE PRINCE: (*to himself)*

My flower is ephemeral, and she has only four thorns to defend herself against the world. And I have left her on my planet, all alone!

*(looks regretful and stands up )*

What place would you advise me to visit now?

GEOGRAPHER:

The largest flattest planet around, planet Earth. It has hundreds of kings, thousands of coalminers, millions of gamblers and sad people, and just about everyone has their own phone. It has a good reputation.

*(little prince starts to walk away, looking concerned. Calls his birds and leaves.)*

*Music starts.*

*Lights fade.*

**SET-CHANGE – prepare Earth again – sand-dunes.**

***END OF ACT 2***