

GOGGLES

A short dramedy by
Nicole B. Adkins

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CAST OF CHARACTERS

KELLEN, 5th grade girl, misses Skyler. Her brother is driving her crazy.

CAMERON, in-between 1st-3rd grade, Kellen's brother, loves skateboarding, really wants his big sister's attention.

SKYLER, 5th grade girl, used to be Kellen's best friend but has rather disappeared since she got Mega Game Goggles and started hanging with Georgie.

GEORGIE, 5th grade girl, Skyler's friend, really into the Goggles. She and Kellen don't really like each other.

MGG (MEGA GAME GUIDE), 1-3+ people, a digital being/beings. The Mega Goggles guide/chorus could be played by multiple actors saying the lines in unison, or the lines could be alternated, or one actor could say the lines while the other actors helped to create the world. These actors could double as partygoers in Kellen's Mega Game World experience.

Genders may be switched as needed. If genders are changed, pronouns, related nouns, etc, may be changed accordingly.

PRODUCTION NOTES

Goggles may look however the production team wishes. They could be as simple as painted swim goggles (the big kind that go partially over the nose would probably look best) or glasses with painted cardboard additions glued to them...whatever you can dream up.

Though the play could still be produced effectively without these elements, if the production team has access to a projector and screen, these could be used to help create Kellen and Cameron's house/front porch, and then to bring Mega Game World to life. For example, when Kellen appears there, we

could see an image/video of a colorful, abstract, digital world behind her, and later we could see things/places she requests (the car/motorcycle/etc., the beach, a disco ball/party setting, etc.).

(Lights up on KELLEN, grade 5, sitting on her front porch, texting. Her brother CAMERON, younger, is playing around on his skateboard.)

CAMERON: Kel! Watch!

KELLEN: Busy.

CAMERON: I wanna go to the skatepark.

KELLEN: Not right now! Told you, Skyler's coming over... *(Gets a text.)* Hey – she says she has a surprise for me.

CAMERON: Then can we go? Mom said we could go!

KELLEN: Depends on what Skyler wants to do... Wonder what the surprise is.

CAMERON: I thought you guys weren't even friends anymore.

KELLEN: What?!

CAMERON: Last week when she invited Georgie over and not you and they went to that Goggle tournament thing you said –

KELLEN: Don't you dare tell her that.

CAMERON: *Well,* if you take me to the skatepark...

KELLEN: If you tell her I will make you eat your skateboard.

CAMERON: She won't wanna go. She used to be fun. But now all she does is sit around wearing those Goggles. It's dumb.

KELLEN: You're just jealous Mom won't let you have a pair.

CAMERON: So are you.

(Kellen stands to look for Skyler. Cameron starts to skate off.)

KELLEN: MOM SAID STAY IN THE DRIVEWAY UNLESS I'M WITH YOU!

(Cameron sighs and comes back. SKYLER, grade 5 and GEORGIE, her friend, enter. They are both carrying Mega Game Goggles, which are awesome. Better than awesome. Skyler hides a bag behind her back.)

CAMERON: *(Does Skateboard trick.)* Hey Skyler! Watch this!

SKYLER: Nice, Cam! Hey Kellen!

KELLEN: Skyler!! Georgie...didn't know you were coming...

GEORGIE: Spent the night last night.

KELLEN: Oh...

CAMERON: Wanna go to the skatepark with us?

SKYLER: Maybe later. I would've invited you last night too, Kel, but we were Goggling. I knew you'd be bored. But then... this morning something *amazing* happened, the best thing EVER – and I have the hugest surprise for you!!!

GEORGIE: Give them to her so we can go already.

KELLEN: Give me what?

GEORGIE: Going to Goggle, K?

(Georgie sits; puts on her Goggles. She trances out.)

SKYLER: *(Smiles mysteriously.)* Wait'll you see... Close your eyes and hold out your hands.

(Kellen does.)

Don't peek!

(Skyler puts the bag in Kellen's hands.)

Happy early birthday!!!

(Kellen pulls Mega Game Goggles out of the bag.)

KELLEN: OH. MY. WOW! Seriously?!!

CAMERON: Mom's never going to let you keep those.

KELLEN: Stuff it, Cam.

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CAMERON: She says they're too expensive, and she read a bunch of articles that said –

KELLEN: Yeah I know what she read but she doesn't have to pay for them and she can't say no to a present! Thank you, SKYLER! But – how??

SKYLER: My dad surprised me with the Deluxe Goggles this morning!! Faster processing, better graphics, more levels – but the old ones are still super cool...just wait. I know we haven't been hanging out a lot lately...but now with the extra pair, I thought maybe...

KELLEN: (*Touched:*) Thanks, Sky.

CAMERON: Mom says those things turn your brain into space jelly and your butt [bum] into a pancake. They'll probably turn you boring, just like –

KELLEN: CAMERON! Sorry. He's so *dumb* sometimes!

CAMERON: Am not!

SKYLER: Haha, no worries. I get it. My baby sister is the same way.

CAMERON: I'm not a baby! And I'm not dumb!

SKYLER: Sorry, didn't mean it that way, Cam. Now, Kel – TRY them. Come on!

(*Skyler puts on her Goggles, sits and trances out.*)

CAMERON: Let me try.

KELLEN: No way. *I* haven't even tried them yet... (*Squeals.*) And they're *mine!*

(*Kellen looks at the Goggles, then at Skyler. She puts them on. Music. Maybe the lights change. Skyler, Georgie and Cameron all exit instantly. We are in Mega Game World. MEGA GAME GUIDE (MGG), a genie or wizard-like being (could be played by*

multiple actors), appears. MGG takes off Kellen's Goggles. Kellen stands, looking around.)

MGG: Welcome, Initiate, to Mega Game World, where all your dreams come true...

KELLEN: Wow... This is AMAZING! Where am I? It feels so real...

(MGG puts her/his hands on Kellen's head.)

Whoa! Hello...

MGG: Please stand by for a mind-scan...

(We hear a machine-like whir, then a beep like a microwave alarm.)

Please state your wishes, Kellen. We are here to serve.

KELLEN: You know my name!!

MGG: What do you wish for, Kellen? Anything you want is yours.

KELLEN: *(Jumping up and down, squealing:)* Whoa! Ok... Um... Maybe...I wish I knew how to drive and had a car?

(We hear a car beep. MGG gives car keys to Kellen. Kellen looks out and squeals.)

How did you know my favorite color is red?! OK, what about a – motorcycle?

(Smaller beep, MGG gives her more keys.)

A boat!

(A beep, more keys.)

An airplane!

(Sound of an airplane landing, more keys.)

A never-ending chocolate bar!!

(MGG gives her a huge chocolate bar.)

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KELLEN: *(Takes a bite.)* Um...tastes less...chocolatey than I'd imagined... Kinda tastes like nothing.

MGG: If you'd like to order the Mega Deluxe Goggles with a full sensory panel, please insert credit card.

KELLEN: No, it's fine.

(Kellen hands MGG back the chocolate bar.)

I wish...I was at the beach?

(We hear waves and seagulls. Maybe it gets brighter. MGG brings in a reclining beach chair. Kellen looks around, amazed. She sits in the beach chair.)

Awesome. *(Squinting:)* Can I have Kay Ray sunglasses, please?

(MGG gives her the sunglasses. She puts them on.)

(Laughing:) A kazoo?

(MGG hands it to her, she toots it a bit then gives it back.)

The newest Sarah Signa book!

(MGG hands her a book. She opens it.)

Blank inside?

MGG: For full text, please insert credit card.

KELLEN: Um— no thanks, er, never mind...

(She gives the empty book back.)

What about...can I swim here?

MGG: For full aquatic sensory experience, please insert credit card.

KELLEN: Never mind...

MGG: What do you wish for most, Kellen?

KELLEN: I guess...I wish Skyler was here with me?

(We hear a whirring noise.)

MGG: Scanning memory bank and local devices... User currently occupied. Do Not Disturb mode.

KELLEN: But I thought this was something we were supposed to do together...

MGG: Sending proxy.

(Skyler enters, zombie-like.)

KELLEN: Hi Skyler!

SKYLER: *(Empty, brainwashed voice:)* Hi, bestie.

(Kellen waves her hands in front of Skyler's face; Skyler's expression remains unchanged.)

KELLEN: Thanks... Um, what now? What should we do next?

MGG: Turning on Wish Anticipation Mode.

(Whirring noise.)

SKYLER: How about a party?

(Dance music. Maybe disco lights. Georgie enters. Georgie and Skyler dance and laugh in a fake, hollow way [more actors could join in if you have them]. They keep dancing through the following sequence:)

SKYLER: Come on, Kellen! Dance with us!

GEORGIE: *(Empty, brainwashed voice:)* Totally! I'm so sorry I've never noticed how cool you are before. Let's dance!

(Kellen dances halfheartedly. Cameron enters, skating around Kellen.)

CAMERON: Hey sis! What're you doing? Can I play too? Can I?

KELLEN: What are you doing here?? I didn't wish for you! Get lost!

MGG: Our apologies. Recalibrating.

(We hear a whirring noise. MGG removes Cameron.)

CAMERON: Hellllp!!! *(Off:)* Sis! Sis! Heeeeeelllp! Where am I? It's getting dark...

KELLEN: *(A little worried:)* Cameron?

CAMERON: *(Trails off:)* Keelllleennnn...

(The music gets louder. Georgie and Skyler dance closer and closer to her. While they are dancing, they acquire "pancake butts.")

SKYLER & GEORGIE: *(Empty, brainwashed voices and fake laughter:)* Come on, Kellen, dance with us!

(The music gets louder, they get closer. Kellen is unsettled.)

KELLEN: Skyler? Georgie? *(Points to their rear ends:)* What's up with your...?

SKYLER & GEORGIE: What do you mean, Kellen?

KELLEN: Why do you both sound so weird?

SKYLER & GEORGIE: What do you mean, Kellen?

SKYLER: Everything is wonderful.

GEORGIE: Isn't it wonderful here?

SKYLER & GEORGIE: *(Singing like a commercial:)* Mega Game Goggles!

(They advance, Zombie-like, toward her.)

KELLEN: Cameron!

(No answer.)

Have you guys seen my brother?

SKYLER: Who?

GEORGIE: You don't have a brother, Kellen.

SKYLER & GEORGIE: You never had a brother.

(They move closer and closer. They pull out a third pancake butt.)

KELLEN: You guys are freaking me out... I don't want a pancake butt [bum]! **CAMERON!**

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