



Theatre Home Delivery

LUNA - a play about the Moon

Scene 13: Michael Collins.

For two actors | Ages 11 - 16 years (KS3 & KS4)

This scene has been taken from *LUNA - a play about the Moon*, written by Toby Hulse. The challenge of this scene is maintaining the drama and mystery whilst completing an ordinary task. It is also an opportunity for you to try out a American accent.

Accents

The first step to learning an accent is to listen to native speakers. The next step is to learn how to make the sounds you are hearing with your mouth. This scene features Michael Collins, an American astronaut, so you'll need to do a American accent. [Click here](#) to hear an interview with Michael Collins himself! Remember, it is more important to get the feel of the character than it is to be perfect.

What happens?

Shae, who is running away to the Moon, stumbles across Michael Collins, a former US astronaut who flew the Apollo 11 command module around the Moon while his crewmates, Neil Armstrong & Buzz Aldrin, made the first crewed landing on the surface. Michael is busy completing a mundane task, like fishing or making a sandwich, it's up to you. He continues to do his task, while regaling Shae about his trip around the Moon.

What you'll need beforehand

It's up to you to decide where this scene could be set. A lake? A cafe? Michael Collins' secret hideout? Be creative and try out a few different versions to find the one you like best. Gather whatever props Michael will need for her task.



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Lighting and Costumes

Shae is a young explorer trying to run away to the moon, so think adventure gear. She will also need a torch to guide her on her journey. Think about how you might use the torch light to focus the action.

Michael is a retired astronaut, so maybe an old flight suit or the classic saucer for a space helmet.

Music

Here's the audio file you will need to underscore the action: [DOWNLOAD HERE](#)

Shae meets Michael Collins.

Darkness. An air of mystery. Shae enters with his torch. He is running away to the Moon. A voice greets her, as if from nowhere.

Collins Hey, Shae.

Shae Ah!

Shae is startled. We see Michael Collins who is busy doing some kind of mundane task. Shae is relieved once she realises who it is.

Shae Hey, Michael Collins!

I'm running away to the Moon.

Collins Of course you are.

Shae You went to the Moon. What's it like?



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Collins Well, the Moon kind of surprises me sometimes. I'll be out at night, and I'll see a nice moon, and say, 'Hey, that looks good'. Then I'll say, 'Oh shoot, I went up there one time!' Kind of surprises me. But I didn't land, of course. I stayed in the Command Module, orbiting the Moon, waiting for Neil and Buzz.

Shae Didn't you want to land?

Collins I got to do something no one else had ever done. I went around the far side of the Moon, on my own.

Shae Weren't you lonely?

Collins I can't deny a feeling of solitude. I was alone, truly alone, and absolutely isolated from any known life. If a count were taken, the score would be three billion plus two on the other side of the Moon, and one plus God knows what on this side. But somebody had to get Neil and Buzz back home. That's the most important part, coming home.

Shae Why?

Collins If you really want to understand, you need to speak to Jim Lovell.

Shae Jim Lovell?

Collins Just keep walking. You will find him.

Shae Thank you.



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Michael leaves the stage.

Shae contemplates what she has just learnt, then continues on her quest to run away to the Moon.

The end.



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