



HamletHouse

a fantasy in five movements  
by sean edward lewis

... an Ophelia dream (postmortem)  
2 Hamlets, 1 Ophelia, and a Ghost  
A disposal team excavates and now must eradicate the body of Hamlet

**PROLOGUE**

*WITH BODY THEY COME*

**MOVEMENT I**

*OPHELIA'S LOVE*

**Scene 1**

**O:** crying is not mandatory, it can even be (shameful)

**H1:** love is the named entity (flee into murder!)

**G:** she had all her toes crushed but her ankles seemed to smile

**H2:** put your face in the punch bowl girl

**O:** (farty)

**H1:** see what you can get away with

**O:** my  
my  
my

*[Ophelia sings into the blackness. prolonged and lingering. stops. whispering. on verge of tears]*

sensationalism (my ass) I loved the soft (lonely) painter  
come to me  
now drop away  
further further

ponds, the lake

**G:** steroids

**O:** 20,000 degrees

**H1:** Debussy

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O: *[in french] Munchkin -*

H2: just crime droplets

H1: dried mud

G: yuppy-you are who?

H2: farmer (Saul) said (so so so)

G: this is a place (between) places

O: *be kind to me*

G: the water is cool

O: take me

H1: in another room by ourselves

H2: her without anything

G: two birds singing

H1: sorry I am filled with sorrow

G: cocaine, Detroit  
a body bag with Hamlet inside  
bathroom behavior  
Ophelia slaps Hamlet repeatedly interrogating him

*[Ophelia slaps the two Hamlets]*

*[Ghost speaks into devise. his voice is being amplified and recorded]*

G: a place between places ...

O: *[performed. a rupture and rapture]*  
lies cries Moses! (we trust you)  
hear me! hear all of me! feel me!

## **Scene 2**

*[into devise]*

G: doo!  
doo!  
doo!  
doo!

H1: lip train in a cocaine bin (14 breaches) to a cocaine bin

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O: let's start talking about cocaine Mr. feel this Mr.?

*[Ophelia slaps Hamlet]*

fill this up Mr. she what? you're what? who's what?

H2: solid food (the poor girl) she needed solid food

G: she needs here family now (in this city) by herself (lonesome girl)  
*[to all present]* who's in charge here!?

O: *[discordant]*  
undo life sir jove jove love sore for joro  
love sir jove (klee love sore for joro)  
Klee Klees (7) Klee Klees  
Klees Klees

G: do you experience an unusual amount of *envy*?  
do you think about time and the past?

O: *[desperate. a cry.]* leave me here! let me try! I must try!

### Scene 3

G: *[into devise]* all we knew, Hamlet was lost on the streets of Detroit  
hamlet died in Detroit. Now we have his body. In a bag

O: we keep dreaming. Hamlet's speaking.

H2: he's crying!

H1: stop your crying Hamlet!

O: what was Hamlet doing in Detroit?

G: we landed just now from Detroit. with Hamlet's body.  
*[pause]*  
no more questions!

O: pop-out-sinner sip this tonight. we're eating the best food in Detroit!

H1: Detroit can be the best. the best.

O: Detroit can be the best. the best.

### Scene 4

G: inevitability (as) gravity  
instability (or) grey hairs on your (tits)

H2: pillows and pork I live in New York

O: pillows and pork I live in New York

H1: Crystal me it's me  
It's me Crystal me  
tell me

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O: razors in the sky whistling tongues German hopes  
mother  
father  
child  
is that you, Stendhal? please answer me!

G: *[gestures]* you need to give us space

H1: we make love so slow, so sweetly, the devil will appear

O: my heart is not dead

G: good luck

O: don't say good luck to me

G: I wouldn't

O: you just did

*[pause]*

G: (well) (ya) (ok)  
sly pittance

O: when you talk that way my ears tickle *[Ophelia giggles rubbing her ears]*

H1: *[into devise]* pondering is what is needed  
thyroid sky, bourbon night, similar grapes  
similar to fall under this spell

O: pigsty we feel Tennessee is loins in space  
loins love loins is for loins  
love less loins you will  
love loins love (less)

G: and get less

O: oh dear ghost, your dead (silly) go to bed

H1: *[an echo]* leave me here! let me try! I must try!

## Scene 5

O: before we agree, a number (2)  
number keen (2) number 2  
TRAPPED -----> YOU  
solo pure cream butter  
mercury butter

*[H2 sneezes]*

the devil sneezes

*[H2 pretends to be Elvis]*

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**H2:** Elvis is not Hamlet

**G:** *[into devise]* ok sure *[under breath]* pussy. why even talk as though Hamlet were Elvis? *[under breath]* pussy

**O:** hamlet is not Elvis

**G:** hamlet is not Elvis

**H1:** nor is Elvis hamlet

**G:** let it die

**O:** let it die

**H2:** the body?

**H1:** we're not sure it is a body

**H2:** we're not sure?

**O:** we're not sure

**H1:** this all could be a lie

**G:** but we must...

**H2:** we must try. *[an echo]* leave me here. let me try! I must try!

*[pause]*

**H1:** nobody is Hamlet

**G:** we keep speaking Hamlet

*[shouting with great defiance]*

Hamlet speak (a coffee!)  
leave me here! let me try! I must try!

**H1:** Hamlet speak

**H2:** Hamlet speak

**O:** when will it end? we torture each other playing Hamlet games in HamletHouse

**G:** no more shall we speak of (him) from this moment forward!

*[pause]*

## **Scene 6**

**H2:** hamlet's the body

**O:** Hamlet's in hell

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**G:** I want to cut my own arm off *[gestures]* thwack!

**O:** oh ghost oh ghost oh ghost  
don't scare us  
oh ghost oh ghost oh ghost

**H1:** we have to get rid of him. we have to get rid of Hamlet!

**G:** we are under *[gestures]* enormous pressure, to dispose of the body  
*[a casket. a disappearing act]*

**O:** rotten rotton. something is rotton inside Hamlets body.

*[Ophelia speaks into a devise. her voice is being recorded and amplified]*

**O:** goldfish floating water  
rain  
the night  
Holland  
Berkshire blow-up dolls  
I think you would also be tortured  
monastic chromatic (my lips)

**G:** pork-n-bean's caught in her throat!  
She's drunk  
She's a lunatic  
[www.womanticislands.net](http://www.womanticislands.net)  
(seaside she sits) sea side she spits

**O:** *[ecstatic]* the love

*[Ophelia spits a large stream of water from her mouth]*

**MOVEMENT II**  
*HALLUCINATION*

Scene 7

**G:** mo-town record recordings your ass  
 mo-town record recordings your ass

she's jealous  
 she's bored

**O:** and beautiful

*[H1 speaks off and on into devise. This devise enables team to communicate with the "higher-ups" that sent them on this mission. The devise is one part communicator and one part recording apparatus. H1 also makes odd noises with his mouth]*

**H1:** I'll drop flight instructions later. limit your fluid intake, get lots of sleep (snoring is dangerous). a warm blanket. great comfort. spaniel rhymes with Daniel. lunar flight to Germany. the Holland Bear. type writers in the dirt in Spain crushed by Lorca's head. Lorca himself is the devil. I.D. the bad guy. this is where we start in my precinct. I.D. the bad guy. and in this house, Hamlet is the bad guy.

**O:** to you (my hope) I give my devotion

**G:** Hamlet lost his way. that's all. hamlet is lost

**H1:** I can't find my purpose

**H2:** I can't see

**H1:** I can't see

**H2:** I'm naked

**H1:** hamlet is naked

**H2:** Phoenix

**H1:** Stendhal

**O:** Crystal

**G:** The Ghost

**H1:** *[softly to Crystal]* kind kind heart

**O:** *[interrupted]* Phoenix what are you doing here?

**H1:** let's make the best of it

**H2:** stymied. reptile excrement. false hopes. to be, lost (away) to be, our friends (we see them at the strip) "strip"?! your not from the suburbs. you will never understand. so stop trying. jeans. pie. algebra. more is morphine. motorcycle mad. also made dump bumpy dunce. run your hands here. here dizzy. a spell. her muse.

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**G:** possessive little creep driven mad  
driven until his stern(ness) gave in  
he collapsed from the inside, and sunk down  
as an empty sack (beggars)  
beware, this is your story  
more than not he's remembered fondly  
every so often the hairs raise  
and we see other things, grave romantic castle  
can you talk? if you could, if you can, I would listen

**H1:** seeds sea (sill) to your knees (crystal)  
kneel now be-fore your own life. how are we to trust you otherwise?  
make us believe Crystal

*[into devise]* don't wait (pausing could be a critical error). mal-functioned.  
sign 1984. Orwell was a doctor. he worked on people's teeth. drumming numb  
feet. sea water.

**G:** he was magical with water

**O:** hamlet is like Moses

**H1:** if I could stop the waters and dig up all the creeks and ponds I would

**O:** we are in a desert here dry and barren

**G:** if only Ophelia would of filled herself with sand  
and became a sand mommy. that would be more interesting to see.  
Ophelia stuffed with sand

**O:** or stoned! (shhhh!)

### **Scene 8**

*[H1 and Ophelia go into a routine]*

**H1:** stillness in heart (drumbeat) dumb resin

**O:** sip this so we can know

**H1:** if you're in (wink wink) your in (dumb resin)

**O:** the memory leaves if you remember

**G:** you two do this same routine in Detroit?

*[pause]*

### **Scene 10**

**H1:** *[into devise]* Detroit Detroit why are we here?  
*[talking to himself]* stick to the game plan

**H2:** we're here for you. for you (for me)

**H1:** *[into devise]* this is a test. test. this is a test. testing. testing.

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O: fuck these tests! fuck these tests!

H1: *I can't believe it. people laughed at me full voice on the street.  
is there something wrong with me?*

H2: *I can't believe it. people laughed at me full voice on the street.  
is there something wrong with me?*

G: there is nothing. nothing. wrong with you. nothing.

**Scene 11**

O: death in the desert

G: *[into aparatus]* she has extra feelings. she dreams, but without the residual garbage

O: I know there's crimes  
I know there's cowards  
I know there's dogs

H2: I could pinch you *[H2 pinches Ophelia]*

O: To be pinched. I am always giving more than is expected

G: that's why we love you baby blue.

O: the moon cries. eggs are served  
panting horses (McDonald's is so good sometimes)

H1: Crystal, we weren't going to talk about that ...

O: panting horses (panting) *[Ophelia pants. this is prolonged]*

H1: stop that Phoenix! I will scream if you don't stop!

H2: you are screaming

G: *[into devise]* sometimes it feels like a funeral around here.

H2: do you hear (in the distance) the live recordings ...?

O: *[still panting. becoming ill]* please ... somebody go ... I'm so thirsty

*[Ophelia goes into a hallucination. a possession. the others watch while she enters into and wallows with-in a muddy imaginary pigsty. pretending to be a pig, she is putting her toes and feet into her mouth]*

H1: somebody go, I can't believe my eyes  
she is without shame  
pigs (she likes it) and I like her

G: *[joining Ophelia in imaginary pigsty]*  
strange politics  
torpedoes gum the future  
volition / cognition

more / more  
 there has always been the same amount of time  
 but now, somehow  
 there's more compression

*[rubbing his heart in agony]*

this feeling of being forever behind

*[with great passion. a confession]*

Oh!!!  
 to capture something  
 Blasted!  
 a chance!  
 2 years (more really)  
 but two years is what I need!

*[The Ghost is funneling water between buckets with a hose.]*

it always matters  
 dead or alive  
 it matters!

*[Ophelia has returned to normal. She comforts the Ghost]*

**O:** hush  
 hush

## **Scene 12**

*[Ophelia is soothing The Ghost, gently. The Ghost speaks into the devise]*

**G:** *[breathy]* what happens outside this block of time? how long have they been together? where did they come from? why are they here? all this fades until only the faintest horizon is seen

**O:** (we love you)  
 disappearing we love you  
 lost (in space) we love you  
 etch your heart into my hand and as I fade away  
 there will be no remembering

**H1:** but there will be evidence

**G:** 20 concerts 20 heads 20 dogs 20 cans of beans 13 nieces 29 horror movies  
 17 helicopters

these *[gestures]* are for us

**H1:** for us

**O:** for us, to see

**H1:** for us, to see

*[Ophelia wears a bright yellow shawl]*

**G:** miss? are you afraid? If the shawl you are wearing is too bright, you will need to cover it up.

**O:** I am going away

**G:** good. go away

**O:** I am going away

**G:** good. go away

**O:** I'm going

*[pause]*

### **Scene 13**

**H2:** *[into aparatus]*  
pinched (she is purple) friendly and purple

pigs hunt where we come from  
pigs love olives with carbonated water  
pigs don't complain  
pigs know when to stop making demands  
pigs know how to make a girl feel beautiful  
pigs feel frightened if it's raining with thunder  
I just want to kiss her

hi, Crystal, pleasure

**O:** you are queer

**H:** yes

**O:** that's good

**G:** hmmm?

**H2:** my family's - tomorrow - they're interested - my life - maybe we can both be here - we can arrange - a dinner - something? do you ...?

**O:** I'm not sure. perhaps. I'm bored. stop crying Phoenix. here, put film in the camera.

**H2:** don't call me Phoenix anymore. Crystal! you are the dream

*[H2 spits up a stream of water everywhere]*

**O:** puddles with you (you know piss)

I want to color *[seducing]* my skin  
what happened? (do you have any crayons?)

(4) walls of dirt (a remarkable plot)

a remarkable love (we guarantee a recovery)

*[attacking]* paraffin you want? what's your asking price?  
you're sorting through a dilemma Gemini (simmering simmering) Gemini

goodbye *[Ophelia kisses H2 for a while]*

**H2:** a fury little frog just ran by.

**Scene 14**

**G:** doomed face was called upon to boast  
then he brought up adorno paste

*[Ophelia tries to feed the Ghost Pineapple]*

no more pineapple! stop trying to feed me pineapple!

the Americans never knew all the trust was lost  
erased! people are less susceptible to floating  
(science fiction Russian)  
3rd ave over is ok. otherwise bitch you're on your own

night time  
2nd grade sex  
a bathtub juiced Sacramento  
horticulture joined former eagle and from the marine standpoint it's over  
peanut butter with cheese

an ape

bad mitten cumin camp Yosemite  
away skies  
I thought you'd learned from all this

**O:** *[into devise]* this is a spell. blues and yellows and former heart aches left  
in the river. washed away away. the singing of our sorrow

**Choral Singing:**

all the sorrow everyone feels  
across oceans Atlantic night singing  
her void  
her absence  
perfect

**Ophelia Sings:**

who's here?  
is my dream true?

**MOVEMENT III***HAMLETHATE***Scene15**

O: *[alone. in bed. a dance.]*  
 yellow heart. a pussy. look how big my feet are?  
 Ford cars (detroit)  
 Simmons mattresses

*[Ophelia screams]*

H1: why is she screaming?

O: you're not Christ?

H1: I sold all this back in Detroit

O: *[Ophelia screams again]*

H1: God was glory (in my story)

O: we she (this mercy)  
 we she (take comfort) baby blue

**Scene 16**

*[pure pleasure and play]*

O: bird bath flowers

G: saints belly dance

O: molly mirth

G: ball born jelly

O: 6th grade Denise

G: humming park

O: football teams

G: tanning Halloween

*[pause]*

G: (fingers) into life and tremendous paths  
 to be, (tremendous)  
 to be, (sallow) the sallow are knowing

O: the sallow feel unknown towards a purpose

G: unknown in 1/2 half of a cow

O: 2/3rds of a donut *[they laugh]* Jewish lives (seek) ravid health

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G: health does us big time

O: Ophelia is Ophelia is Ophelia is Ophelia

G: until Ophelia becomes someone else

O: when she is someone else things are ok ok

**Scene 17**

G: bird to be bird in a bath whose waters delineates a crater  
whose felt is felt we can feel  
journeys we feel over love, felt

O: Ravid felt  
Ravid feel to be  
or not to be  
to be, or not to be  
felt  
to be, or not to be  
feel

H2: can lies live longer than women or dogs?

H1: who's last up the mountain? snakes or baked biscuits?

H2: does Gemini spell happy?

G: in your language *[pause]*

*[the ghost begins dancing and singing]*

you are welcome here. morning, noon, and night! sit. this is a comfortable  
time!

*[stops suddenly. extremely angry. as though rudely interrupted]*

who's talking chalk?!  
mageldicuddy!  
mageldicuddy!

*[more angrily]*

seminar?! pills?! killing germs?! toilet behavior?!

**Scene 18**

H1: me or you

H2: me or you

H1: which one do you want

H2: which one do you want

H1: which man

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H2: which man

H1: Hamlet (man)

H2: Hamlet (man)

G: let it out Hamlet(House)

**Scene 19**

*[Ophelia interrogates H2. she slaps him in the face. repeatedly]*

O: you are alone. penguins polin fuck!  
*[into device]*  
fuck twiced!  
dream racer 4's  
2 x 2's  
a large boat

G: hmmm? this story sounds familiar

H2: Ophelia is pissed. run!

*[The Ghost and the two Hamlet's run. they stop. pause]*

H1: where are we?

G: HamletHouse.

H2: where did we come from?

G: Detroit.

H1: What's in the bag?

G: the body of Hamlet.

**Scene 20**

O: two twins in me. two twins in me  
  
jock rub me. rub me white unto pure jock  
rub me tight unto rub until burns thicken  
rabbits thicken our moods. our dreams thicken other colors  
other whites drown unto other nights

G: omit this. go into an omittance  
why don't you say what's on your mind, hamlet?

H1: I fucking hate you Ophelia

H2: I fucking hate you Ophelia

H1: I fucking hate you Ophelia

H2: I fucking hate you Ophelia

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**H1:** I fucking hate you Ophelia

**H2:** I fucking hate you Ophelia

**H1:** I fucking hate you Ophelia

**H2:** I fucking hate you Ophelia

**H1:** I fucking hate you Ophelia

**H2:** I fucking hate you Ophelia

**O:** leave  
leave  
leave  
leave

stay  
stay  
stay  
stay

wait  
wait  
wait  
wait

*[doorbell sound]*

**MOVEMENT IV***SACRIFICE*Scene 21

**G:** *[into aparatus]* I heard a doorbell and doorbells (to me)  
always refer to sadness

**O:** sometimes sometimes sometimes

*[Ophelia is painting herself green]*

April  
criteria  
peacock  
Jesus  
doorbells  
Christ  
blue ponds

**H2:** what happened next?

**H1:** she turned green. or maybe the eyes turned green

**O:** she is green

**G:** *[into aparatus]* everything from then on was green

**H2:** Ophelia is green

**H1:** she has 17 curves. she was born with extra hips

**G:** *[into aparatus]*  
Jesus is tall  
Jesus loved rabbits  
Jesus had many friends  
*[approaches Ophelia]*  
Do you want to eat Jesus? We can go to Bethlehem right now

**O:** they're not there

**H2:** did you look in the toilet Ophelia?

**O:** in the commode? I'll look again  
*[under her breath going into the bathroom]* chlorine chlorophyll bath

**G:** haha hehe

**H2:** shhh, you'll send her into a fit!

*[coming out of bathroom]*

**O:** put tape on the sink, so when I come home, I know where it is. do you hear me? tape. next to the soap. *[violent gesture]* I have no energy. I should of went to Canada. bails of hay (or Holland) the pure vein, sonar, dutch under-arms, you could follow anyone. there's no violence. I tell you, only that other bitch says there is. and who listens to her?

**Scene 22**

**H2:** why is this taking so long? take off your clothes. leave your money on the table

*[Ophelia places money, coins etc. on the table. she begins to undress]*

*[Ghost speaks under breath while Ophelia undresses. he speaks into the devise]*

**G:** spice spiders  
this is a hand shut case  
lord lord lord  
(2) memory of mother  
she was short and fat

christ helped the dead  
really

the doorknob has grease on it

**H1:** *[to Ophelia]* your nails are blue

**H2:** hand over what is in your pockets. *[pause]* now we can talk. you've been where doing what with whom?

**O:** *[Ophelia is as naked as an Aphrodite]* pass the salt on top of the cheese

*[The Ghost hands Ophelia the salt on top of the cheese]*

**O:** a sometimes sea a sometimes sea  
fuck 10 rocks

**G:** the motor

**H1:** fetch

**O:** shut up

**H1:** stinking yogurt! she has a crude mind.

**G:** obviously.

**H1:** the solution?

**G:** jam clay in her hole

**H1:** I intend to do worse than that

**H2:** be a hero Dolphin. make her eat crackers

**G:** when push comes to shove (after swimming) leave a flea on a rock  
see if that drives her crazy

**H1:** gravity diamond solo beast (away) in a land of holiness  
oh my god. I am freezing!

*[singing]*

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O: O ... you can  
O ... you can go

*[she continues singing]*

H1: her apple screams. this is heat. oh my god I am freezing!  
*[into devise]* 1200 frogs in her mouth

G: anger expels (and) makes heat

O: heat us dumb  
big and dumb  
gives us what we deserve  
dumb heat  
send a horrific (yellow) into the stream (pillow pillow)  
sent into break waters and white caps breaking faces unto mercy's hand  
we love all the apples

H1: can felt be swallowed? germs-total equals nerves-total equals hero  
bitch hold. I'm freezing! me hold me bitch. me hold me bitch.

O: to be, a wanderer  
stone curses' alone  
swallow a rock (swallow his cock) tic-tac clock into your frock  
put your stone linger in a stone cream linger or a cream stone finger

**CHORAL:**

so so so so so so so so

do do do do do do do do

**Scene 23**

O: do you know me? I'm Ophelia

G: Hamlet's not Elvis but he may be Orestes

H2: I'm talking as though I were hamlet

G: that's the piece

*[Ophelia and The Ghost laugh]*

H1: giggling girls

G: I'm not a girl

H1: you know what I meant

O: Hamlet knows (girls) but he is rotten

G: Hamlet knows nothing about (girls)

O: *[licking gums and lips]* rotten rotten (god I love rotten)

G: *[Ghost is singing to himself]* up the shore Ophelia's a whore

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O: hmm?

G: [again singing to himself] up the shore Ophelia's a whore

O: hmm?

*[Ophelia screams and attacks Ghost. they roll around floor in a vicious cat fight pulling each others hair. they both howl and screech violently]*

O: (4) a dollar bill (or an Euro) I'll stop

G: (4) a dollar bill (or an Euro) with "her" photo and I'll stop

H2: her photo?

H1: big Irish ass photo

H2: big Irish ass photo

*[the ghost starts to weep. through this weeping he speaks to the sky]*

G: you want to cry? go cry. there will be lots of crying  
you are folded in and folded over  
I just keep thinking of her my sorrow (is sorry) for tomorrow

*[Ophelia puts clothes back on]*

#### Scene 24

H1: *[whispering to Ophelia]* at midnight, be in our spot

O: passolinis lips = chips  
mornings are the best time (for funerals)  
come inside, wash up, and get ready ...

peel fetch lavender (fetch)  
lavender (pitch) lavender (pitch)

H1: in ponds

O: swimming

H1: the movements one makes while swimming

O: under lavender clouds

H1: casting shadows under lavender trees

O: we lay lavender eggs

H2: it's embarrassing when your mother kills your father  
and is ... more than you are ... under the same roof  
your mother is ... and the man is not your father  
in the HamletHouse she is ... someone else  
I wish my mother was ... somewhere else  
excuse my French, while I go and wash my hands

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H1: little babies lying around dressed with mommy's milk

O: what about Ophelia? Ophelia has to count for something?

G: sure dummy!

*[talking to himself]*

you dumb Ghost! of course Ophelia Ophelia  
you Dumb Ghost!

**Scene 25**

H1: let Hamlet speak for himself!

H2: let Hamlet speak for himself!

G: Hamlet has done enough talking, as far as I'm concerned

H1: I want Ophelia

H2: I want Ophelia. mother Ophelia be my mother and my lover

H1: don't drown Ophelia, don't die. please Ophelia keep yourself dry

H2: under leaves in a stream, let's make love together, we dream

H1: have we laughed together since you went crazy?

H2: why did you go crazy? who am I supposed to make love to now?

H1: we should of ran off together and taken new identities

H2: as all the really cool lovers do. we're dumb people Ophelia

H1: dumb Ophelia

H2: dumb Hamlet

H1: dummies

H2: dumb

G: HamletHouse dummies

O: hamlet why don't you drown with me  
swim in the pool, Hamlet's polliwogs will make babies  
you'll be remembered Hamlet, forever  
by all the fish, by all the life forms of the pond  
and eventually, in a billion years, you will once again evolve into a man  
the Hamlet man. if Hamlet can't no one can  
Ophelia is a woman who wants love  
I want love (but now I'm dead). what is love to a dead woman  
If I don't get love I will go crazy and die

Scene 26

H1: these are all lies!

G: oh shut up. for once just shut your mouth. please!

H1: I won't. people soil Hamlet. people shit on Hamlet. why?!

O: why why why

H1: I'm sick of dying!

G: ok. Hamlet is sick

H2: call me baby blue from now on

G: ok Hamlet

H2: baby blue. call me Mr. baby blue

G: ok. sure. Mr. baby blue

H1: gather in here for a moment. the team. we need to talk about things

G: these talks are getting old

H1: we're going to keep having them until we all get on the same page

G: what do you mean, "on the same page?"

H1: the same page. things are getting

*[silently mouths as though children were in the room]*

"royally fucked up"

and we have to turn things around. HamletHouse is not in order

G: how complicated can it be? we're a disposal team dispatched into Detroit (originally), then we ended up here, to excavate and eradicate the body of hamlet.

H2: now we have the body. and we must dispose of the body.

O: can't we just dump it in the east river?

H1: no

O: why not

H1: [pause] I don't know

H2: this is the body of hamlet

O: I think I know a thing or two about the subject of Hamlet

H2: really? well ...?

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G: you know about the body?

O: that too

H2: how are we to know Ophelia? how can we trust you? how do we know you're not going to go mad and drown yourself?

O: we need to get rid of the body

G: are there any gold teeth?

H1: I haven't checked

G: maybe you should. we could use the "steel." the "steel" will help us

H1: gold isn't steel.

G: yes it is.

H1: no it isn't.

G: yes it is

H1: no it isn't. gold is gold.

*[pause]*

G: why are we cursed with this wretched body?

H1: be opto-mystic. once we get rid of him we can move on to something else

O: something else

*[Ophelia looks H1 in the face for a long time. she kisses H1 for a long time]*

### **Scene 27**

G: this room is horrible.

O: I've been in worse.

G: I don't doubt that.

O: oh Ghost why are you so ghostly

G: well, I'm from Queens. We believe in people in Queens. This guy, the dead body, hamlet, he lost his belief in people.

I hate Hamlet

H1: (13) times (we settled for the devil)

O: (14) times (I called his name)

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**G:** (15) times (my pockets were empty)

**H2:** will we ever learn

**O:** will we ever be free

**H1:** *[into the devise amplified and altered]* Detroit Detroit how do we dispose of Hamlet's body?

**Choral:**

eeeeeeee ooooooo oohhhhhh ahhhhhhh

Ophelia Ophelia Ophelia

eeeeeeee ooooooo oohhhhhh ahhhhhhh

**Scene 28**

**O:** *[examining body. singing...]*

my scars ...  
do you know how they got there  
all the disposal jobs  
have taken their toll  
it's not easy getting rid of a body  
no matter whose body it is  
hamlet or no hamlet  
it's not easy boy  
it's not easy boy  
let me tell ya

**MOVEMENT V***RETURN***Scene 29**

*[a dull extended lament. groaning.]*

**H1:** yes

**O:** are you sleepy

**H1:** no. I want to drink! be drunk every morning so that when I see you you're soft and ready, you stinky queen! little girl! do the splits and show me your tits!

**G:** a telegraph came for you this morning. read it.

**O:** dear Ophelia, I'm sorry you have to die also and swallow pollywog's (Hamlet's little fish) into your lungs. so much could have been, dear sweet Ophelia. but you too will die young and unsatisfied not like the others who jump from towers you will split up as a sappy stick stinky stinky and throw yourself into a pool

that's me

**G:** she's her

**H1:** she's better

**G:** she is better

**H1:** Ophelia's better than me (I work in a salon to earn extra money on weekends)

**O:** your face (pumpkin) is breaking out. I'm sorry.

**G:** Hamlet was once a polliwog

**O:** this is only a tiny section of the sea

**Scene 30**

**H2:** put your nose in it

**H1:** put your nose in Hamlet

**G:** sit down Ophelia. we need to ask you a few questions about what happened around here.

**H1:** if you hadn't gone off and (my god you killed yourself!) maybe you could of we could of ...

**H2:** put your nose in Hamlet Ophelia

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**G:** *[utter disbelief]* did you really? did you really swallow pollywog's Ophelia?

**O:** why are you interrogating me? I'm happy now. Ophelia doesn't need hamlet, to be ...

**H1:** to be, what Ophelia?

**H2:** you could of bled yourself rather than drown yourself

**O:** I tossed and turned all night  
a june bug  
a frog

*[pause]*

put something on the stove

### Scene 31

**O:** have you ever seen the devil Hamlet?

**H2:** I am the devil

**CHORAL:** hamlet's the devil  
hamlet's the devil

**G:** you really believe you're the devil?

**H2:** yes.

**G:** ok. we take your word for it. Hamlet's the devil.

**H2:** *[into device]*  
joker  
stallion  
pale face  
solo rider  
fence walker  
Bismarck texture

**O:** put the mirror away

**H2:** what are you insinuating?

**O:** the trial the interrogation of ...

**H2:** I went into high risk, high speed recovery so I wouldn't have to put up with this mundane b.s.

**O:** can you tell us about a few of these times?

**H2:** no.

**O:** nothing?

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H2: nothing.

O: what was the nature of the recoveries?

H2: did you not hear what I said?

O: yes, I heard you. but my curiosity will not let me retreat from trying to find out what hamlet was doing during all those years.

H2: don't call me Hamlet please. call my Mr. baby blue.

O: sorry ham (I mean) baby, Mr. blue baby, Mr. baby blue.

H2: you know the story. everyone knows the story. don't make Hamlet tell the story again. don't make baby blue cry.

*[a harp plays in the distance]*

### Scene 32

H1: lady you you  
are you her  
are you (you you)  
lady (be still)  
you are here (you you)  
what do you wish to say  
whisper it to me  
be still (you you)  
a puddle is at your feet

H2: I hate the Bismarck. The Bismarck was dark, the moon was full  
everyone, the Bismarck on the bottom of the sea  
jesus swore to the bottom of the south black sea  
where the Bismarck lies I'm jesus!  
(I'm jesus and the devil and hamlet!)

G: shut up Mr. blue baby. shut up!

H2: ...the Bismarck and the black sea ...

O: I was content to stay under the water

G: I wish you never left the pond Ophelia

O: fuck klimt  
fuck Kandinsky  
fuck Klee  
all the k's  
fuck off  
fuck off kkk's  
fucking klimt sucks!

hello Hamlet

H2: bless me for looking at thee, dear Ophelia, you are frozen

28

O: you can't look at my toes (my shins) any longer  
they're not yours (hamlet fucked up!) everyone thinks poor Hamlet  
poor Hamlet. but not me. Ophelia knows better

**Scene 33**

G: great scott your nerves

H1: great scott your nerves

O: softening pillows

H2: lay a pillow upon the table (good)

H1: *[to the Ghost]* put your head on the pillow (good)

O: can I place my hand on your neck?

G: ok

O: are my hands cold?

G: no. *[Ophelia places her hands on Ghost]* why are you squeezing?

O: there's no pressure you are imaging things

H1: great scott your are imagining

O: isn't that what pillow's are for?

H2: it depends. maybe it's just to sleep

H1: ghost surely you will die

O: but he's already dead

H2: it's as they all say

G: the dead never truly die

O: the dead never truly die

G: *[into devise]*  
living is the lie  
to die is why  
living is the lie  
to die is why

*[Ghost gets up and walks and speaks as though he is talking to children who won't listen]*

we can only see the dead  
everything living is invisible

**Scene 34**

O: bring me an aspirin hamlet my head hurts

H1: yes dear *[he goes. returns]* would you like a blue muffin?

O: stop it. get away from me

H2: sir. sir?

O: don't call me sir. drop it! not another word about "them"!

G: I wish Hamlet were friendly like Ophelia

H1: your blue Ophelia muffin

G: blue Ophelia

H1: Ophelia Ophelia blue Ophelia

H2: O feel ya

H1: O feel ya

O: that's what happens when you drown, after going crazy from love (blue muff)

H2: O feel ya!

O: stop yelling at me! I'm not your dog or your mother I'm Ophelia

H2: you are my mother (we'll speak of the dog later) and Ophelia's dead she drowned!

O: no  
no  
no

*[she spits up water everywhere]*

Ophelia never drowned  
that is a lie. I'll prove I'm the real Ophelia

I'm the real Ophelia. me!  
(I'm the real Ophelia. me!)  
I'm the real Ophelia. me!

G: I'll sit down for this *[he sits]*

H1: how long have you been here?

O: stop it with the dumb questions.

G: we could all be blue. we could all drown (if there were enough water)

H2: or murder each other

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O: we could each of us swallow poison

G: try saying please once in a while and see if that doesn't make things better

*[pause]*

**Scene 35**

O: go in the bathroom and wash yourself  
go in the bathroom and wash yourself  
go in the bathroom and wash yourself  
go in the bathroom and wash yourself

come into the water with me  
this time (Hamlet) my love (sing to me)  
make everything different  
make all the bad stuff go  
and the good stuff come

H1: ok Ophelia here comes the good stuff  
(Bunyan, pleasure, model kites, doomsday)

**Scene 36**

*[the team does a routine. it is a number they have done a thousand times]*

H2: Hemingway had balls  
and Hamlet has balls  
(therefore hamlet is Hemingway)

GHO: no way. no way is Hamlet Hemingway

O: no way

H2: Hemingway had bulls balls (he also killed himself)  
Hemingway killed himself, and in a way, Hamlet killed himself  
therefore, Hamlet is Hemingway

G: no way. Hamlet is not Hemingway

O: no way

H1: (in my view hamlet didn't kill himself)

H2: my balls are my master  
Hemingway Hemingway  
my balls are my master

CHORAL: hush hamlet!

*[pause]*

**Scene 37**

*[Ophelia slaps H2 across the face]*

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O: shut up! I am your mother! and you don't even know who Hemingway is Hamlet

H2: (Mr. baby blue)

G: you little pussy

O: no you don't

H1: Hamlet doesn't know who Hemingway is

H2: yes I do

H1: no you don't

H2: yes I do. Hamlet knows. I'm Hamlet and Hamlet knows

H1: Your not Hamlet. I'm Hamlet. and Hamlet doesn't know

H2: I'm Hamlet. I'm playing Hamlet

H1: I'm Hamlet. I'm playing Hamlet

H2: I'm Hamlet

H1: I'm Hamlet

### Scene 38

G: *[as the great ringmaster]*  
ok Ophelia here comes the good stuff  
Hamlet is here! welcome to HamletHouse!

H2: (Mr. baby blue)

O: you're a fool

H2: I'm not

O: you are

H2: I say you're the fool!

O: no I am not

H2: yes you are

G: who is the bigger fool Hamlet or Ophelia?

H1: wash my feet and pretend I'm jesus

O: (oh baby blue) I love you playing jesus *[Ophelia kisses Hamlet for a long time]*

H1: you do? you do?

O1: call me mary

H1: will you marry me mary mommy?

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O: no. wash my feet (jesus) between my toes. everything. behind my knees

H1: will you marry me mary mommy?

O: I love you jesus (gosh)

H1: (baby blue)

O: love you you mary mommy

H2: Ophelia! Hamlet! what are you doing? stop what you are doing this instant!

G: my god, poor Ophelia, this woman amongst all these  
[mouths silently] "dour dicks"  
how can Hamlet survive without a woman  
Ophelia killed herself and died  
you killed your mother  
you're not even alive yourself really  
so how can you expect some girl to come around  
you don't exactly have a good rep with the ladies (even for the dead)

Scene 39

H1: if she's alive (I'm gunna)

G: why did you give up Hamlet?

H1: (baby blue)

G: you were good baby

O: your life twiddled down to nothing Hamlet

H1: (baby blue)

O: you're scraping bottom

H1: *I never thought I would be one of those guys who goes off and kills his mother. no matter what was to happen. I never imagined I'd be one of those guys.*

H2: *I never thought I would be one of those guys who goes off and kills his mother. no matter what was to happen. I never imagined I'd be one of those guys.*

O: [into devise]  
baby blue is the imaginary hamlet's nick name  
(because no one is hamlet really)  
in this macabre carnival ride  
welcome to HamletHouse!  
HamletHouse  
HamletHouse  
we welcome you to hamlet house!

**CHORAL SINGING**

HamletHouse  
HamletHouse  
we welcome you to HamletHouse

we're here to play  
to make you gay  
in HamletHouse  
HamletHouse

so buckle in  
enjoy the ride  
we hope that you  
your soul confide  
HamletHouse  
HamletHouse  
we welcome you to HamletHouse

*[repeats as a merry-go-round]*

blackout

THE END

**Epilogue**  
**ABSTRACT**

**G:** a man facing southeast (*apartment zero*) we named him

**O:** why did you let me drown Hamlet?  
why did you not come?  
I was under the water holding my breath for you  
you said, "dear Ophelia, my love Ophelia, hold your breath, close your eyes,  
go under the water Ophelia, I'll come for you.  
you said your father was a fish and you knew these waters.  
I held my breath until I turned blue and died Hamlet

**H1:** (baby blue)

**O:** I'll never believe a word you say again

**H2:** (your dead. why does that matter)

**O:** It always matters (Mr. baby blue)

**G:** (10 acres, 3 plants, 9 nerves, sparrows, harrowing and angel, clipping a  
novel short, broad(en)ing)

**Curtain**