

Smitha Middle School

By Anjola, Chloe, Caitlyn, Deeyona, Michelle, Stephanie, and Trinity
(*Formatting and stage directions by Mr. Gossett*)

HAMLITA: THE MUSICAL!

(High on Mount Olympus, ATHENA comforts a crying baby. Once the baby has stopped crying, ATHENA sets her in a crib made of clouds and sunset.)

HAMLITA

That's me, the crying baby. And that's my mom, Athena, goddess of wisdom and battle strategy.

(A trapdoor opens. QUEEN CLAUDIA and her minion, SERGEANT GIRLIE, enter and sneak behind ATHENA.)

And the woman with the mallet? She's going to kill Athena.

QUEEN

Athena's going to get what's coming to her.

(QUEEN raises the mallet, bops ATHENA over the head, and steals the baby.)

You didn't see anything.

(GIRLIE drags dead ATHENA off stage and then steals the crib.)

HAMLITA

That's her partner in crime, Sergeant Girlie. Together, they raised me as the evil queen's niece. I am Hamlita, and this is my life story.

(HAMLITA enters with sword.)

Sixteen years later, I am hot and cool and TOUGH! I may be a princess, but this princess got some muscle.

(One at a time, HAMLITA's friends burst onto the stage with swords. The first is BRIEL, who bows deeply in the style of Taekwondo. HAMLITA returns the bow.)

BRIEL

Hamlita.

HAMLITA

Briel.

BRIEL

Hi yah!

(BRIEL jumps at HAMLITA, who sidesteps her attack. HAMLITA returns slashes at her head and feet, so BRIEL ducks and jumps. BRIEL reaches back for a big swing but drops her sword, so only her arm follows through. HAMLITA then pokes her in the stomach. BRIEL falls. Next, OPHELIA enters.)

HAMLITA

Ophelia!

(OPHELIA thrusts her sword straight forward, but HAMLITA knocks it upward and sucker punches her in the gut. OPHELIA falls. HORATIA enters.)

HAMLITA

Bring it, Horatia.

(HORATIA and HAMLITA fence back and forth in a galloping stance, spare hands on hips. HORATIA lounges forward, but HAMLITA knocks the sword away. In slow motion, HAMLITA swings and HORATIA bends backward as the sword goes over her chin. HAMLITA then hits HORATIA's legs, and she falls in slow motion.)

HORATIA

Dramatic fall.

HAMLITA

I beat you, chicas! I beat you all!

(BRIEL, HAMLITA, HORATIA, and OPHELIA jump up, screaming "Nu-uh!" and "Rematch!" They are all dressed in gym shorts and oversized t-shirts. QUEEN enters, outraged.)

QUEEN

This is not the way girls act! Look at you. You're all sweaty. Like a dog drooling. Grass stains on your shirt. It's so disgusting.

(SWORDFIGHTERS become SWORDDANCERS.)

QUEEN *(singing)*

A lady should not fight or burp
Can't you see how awful you be
I'm taking your sword, can't you see

Where you belon-on-ong?

Next, we're having dinner. If you're not cleaned up in two minutes, you're in big trouble.

HAMLITA

I'm like—

QUEEN

Meet me in the foyer.

(EVERYONE goes to dinner except for HAMLITA.)

HAMLITA

I'm almost an adult. Why am I still living with my aunt? Why can't I live with my mother? Didn't I have one?

(QUEEN rings a dinner bell.)

QUEEN

Dinner! Where's that girl? I'm so ashamed.

(HAMLITA struts to the table.)

HAMLITA

What's up aunt?

QUEEN

Sit down!

HAMLITA

No, I'm fine here.

(QUEEN glares. HAMLITA sits.)

QUEEN

Sit up straight!

(EVERYONE adjusts.)

HAMLITA

There. Happy? What will we be eating today?

OPHELIA

Pork chops!

HAMLITA

Mutton.

HORATIA

Shark fins!

BRIEL

Chocolate fountain!

HORATIA

Calamari.

QUEEN

Spaghetti. With mutton.

(SERVANTS bring in trays of spaghetti.)

QUEEN

Let's say grace. Remember. You must be sweet and graceful.

BRIEL, HAMILITA, HORATIA, AND OPHELIA *(singing wildly)*

Bless this food!

Oh yeah!

Bless this food!

Oh yeah!

Bless this food!

Oh yeah!

Bless this food!

Oh yeah!

QUEEN

STOP!

HORATIA

Spaghetti Confetti!

(BRIEL, HAMILITA, HORATIA, and OPHELIA throw spaghetti up in the air. By the time they stop, QUEEN is covered head to toe with noodles, sauce, and meatballs. QUEEN looks like a spaghetti monster.)

QUEEN

Dang man. Sargent Girlie! Take these four hooligans to Lady Boot Camp!

BRIEL, HORATIA, AND OPHELIA

Noooo! Help! Help!

(SGT. GIRLIE enters in pink camo.)

HAMLITA

I don't want to go to no Boot Camp! I don't want to be girly!

SGT. GIRLIE

Quiet! Or off with your heads. Now, EMBRACE THE PINK! March!

(SGT. GIRLIE leads BRIEL, HAMLITA, HORATIA, AND OPHELIA off the stage and through the audience.)

SGT. GIRLIE, BRIEL, HAMLITA, HORATIA, AND OPHELIA

Left. Left. Left. Right. Left.

Left. Left. Left. Right. Left.

(BRIEL, HAMLITA, HORATIA, and OPHELIA stop and whisper.)

SGT. GIRLIE

Left. Left. Left. Right. Left?

(BRIEL, HAMLITA, HORATIA, and OPHELIA hopscotch instead of marching.)

BRIEL, HAMLITA, HORATIA, AND OPHELIA

Left. Left. Left. Right. Left.

SGT. GIRLIE

Good. That's a start. You were off beat, Hamlita.

HAMLITA

Nu-uh.

SGT. GIRLIE

But it's still not girly enough!

(As SGT. GIRLIE leads BRIEL, HAMLITA, HORATIA, and OPHELIA back to the stage, they add a step routine to the march. They clap underneath their legs on "Lip Gloss!")

SGT. GIRLIE, BRIEL, HAMLITA, HORATIA, and OPHELIA

Left. Left. Left. Right. Left. Lip gloss!
Left. Left. Left. Right. Left. Lip gloss!
Left. Left. Left. Right. Left. Lip gloss!

(THEY arrive at Lady Boot Camp. The walls are covered with pink cloth, and purple cloth rolls down the stairs.)

SGT. GIRLIE

Welcome to Lady Boot Camp!

HORATIA

It's so ugly!

SGT. GIRLIE

Calm. Calm. Young lady, that's not the way to act.

HAMLITA

I want my sword. Poke!

SGT. GIRLIE

Do not touch me like that. Curtsy. All of you.

(BRIEL, HAMLITA, HORATIA, and OPHELIA struggle to curtsy. THEY start to get up from their curtsies, but SGT. GIRLIE snaps, and THEY all hold their curtsies.)

SGT. GIRLIE

This is Lady Boot Camp. In Lady Boot Camp, you will learn posture, curtsies, all such lady things. Feminine claps, hair twirls.

BRIEL

Yeah.

OPHELIA

Whatever.

SGT. GIRLIE

Talk to me again like that, young lady, and you'll be in the dungeon. That's yes ma'am.

BRIEL, HAMLITA, HORATIA, AND OPHELIA

Yes, ma'am.

SGT. GIRLIE

That's not how you curtsy. Are you trying to use the bathroom, child? Drop and give me 20 curtseys!

ALL

1—2—3—20!

SGT. GIRLIE

That was 3.

OPHELIA

Technically, it was 4 since we said 20.

SGT. GIRLIE

But to me—It was three. Stand straight. Don't talk back to me.

(SERVANTS bring in the make-up cart.)

SGT. GIRLIE

Oooh! Look! It's make up time!

OPHELIA

What is this crud? What am I supposed to do with this?

(BRIEL takes the giant mascara brush.)

BRIEL

Mascara! I can do both eyes at once! Plus my ears.

(SGT. GIRLIE hands OPHELIA a giant tube of lip gloss.)

SGT. GIRLIE

Put some lip gloss on. Got it?

(OPHELIA smears red lip gloss all over her face and looks to her friends for approval. Then, HORATIA points at the giant compact.)

HORATIA

What is this?

(QUEEN enters as Horatia is picking up the compact.)

QUEEN

That, dear Horatia, is paradise!

HAMLITA

Paradise in what life?

QUEEN

Here, take some blush!

(From the compact, QUEEN picks up a round pillow covered in baby powder. Every time the QUEEN “blushes” someone in the face, there is a cloud puff.)

QUEEN (to HAMLITA)

Blush!

(Puff!)

QUEEN (to HORATIA)

Blush!

(Puff!)

QUEEN (to OPHELIA)

Blush!

(Puff!)

QUEEN (to BRIEL)

Blush!

QUEEN

Here, I'll take blush.

(QUEEN hits herself in the face. Puff!)

HAMLITA

I think I have too much blush.

QUEEN

This is red. Here. Use it.

(QUEEN then picks up red confetti and throws it at HAMLITA.)

BRIEL

I need more mascara.

(BRIEL picks up the giant mascara brush and tries to use it. OPHELIA takes a giant nail polish bottle and holds it out to HORATIA.)

OPHELIA

Ooh! What's this?

HORATIA

Nail posh! This is so pretty!

OPHELIA *(getting overexcited)*

Oh! Oh! Oh! I'm going to look so good for the boys when I go home.

(OPHELIA hyperventilates and passes out.)

HAMLITA

What is she talking about?

BRIEL

Since when does she like boys?

HAMLITA

Since when do you like makeup?

(OPHELIA rises.)

OPHELIA

Exactly. So don't mess with me woman!

BRIEL

Aren't you supposed to be passed out?

SGT. GIRLIE

Guess what?! You wanna see your next surprise?

BRIEL, HORATIA, AND OPHELIA

Yaaay! Jump pose!

SGT. GIRLIE

Get ready for dresses!

(BRIEL, HORATIA, and OPHELIA exit after SGT. GIRLIE. QUEEN and HAMLITA are left alone.)

HAMLITA

Don't you think I don't know what's going on. I have my eyes on you. Both of them.

(QUEEN exits laughing. ATHENA'S GHOST appears with HAMLITA'S sword.)

ATHENA

Listen to me. Don't take this makeup. Don't take a dress. Just protect everyone—and you.

HAMLITA

Who are you?

ATHENA

You have not known me for a long time. I'm your mother, the goddess Athena, but your evil aunt, the Queen, killed me.

HAMLITA

WHAT?!

ATHENA

They're coming. Remember, protect yourself from any danger. Here's your sword.

(ATHENA watches as HAMLITA raises her sword in vengeance.)

HAMLITA

I knew I had a mother!

(QUEEN and SGT. GIRLIE enter with a rack of dresses.)

HAMLITA

It's time for you to meet your maker, Aunty Queen.

SGT. GIRLIE

Dresses! Hamlita, it's time to pick yours!

(HAMLITA looks longingly at the dresses and weakens.)

HAMLITA

But first....

(HAMLITA puts down the sword and tears through the rack.)

HAMLITA *(speaking in rhythm)*

This is not my style.

Take this one over there.
This one is not my style.
I don't care.

(QUEEN holds out a dress.)

HAMLITA

I love that dress! Give that to me!

(QUEEN hands HAMLITA the dress. HAMLITA holds it up to herself.)

HAMLITA

Wow.

(HAMLITA starts spinning.)

HAMLITA *(singing)*

I feel pretty! Oh, so pretty!
So witty and pretty—

(HAMLITA stops. HAMLITA sees the sword on the ground. SHE picks it back up, so SHE is holding the dress in one hand and the sword in the other. SHE weighs the dress against the sword.)

HAMLITA

What should I do, dress? I loooooove you, but I also love sword fighting. What should I do? To gown? Or not to gown?

HAMLITA *(singing)*

I'm stuck
Between my tears
Between my fears

My decision's so tough
I must choose

To gown
Or not to gown

All these people see me as tough
Maybe that's just not enough

To gown
Or not to gown

I've made my decision now.

(HAMLITA drops the sword and holds the dress.)

SGT. GIRLIE

Wonderful!

QUEEN

Bravo! Bravo! You have joined the girly side. We have been waiting for you.

HAMLITA

The girly side?

QUEEN

The girly side. We bake cookies.

(BRIEL, HORATIA, and OPHELIA bring out trays of cookies. THEY are now in dresses.)

SGT. GIRLIE

Congratulations, Hamlita! You have graduated Lady Boot Camp.

*(SERVANT brings SGT. GIRLIE a tiara graduation cap on a pillow and a diploma sash.
SGT. GIRLIE crowns HAMLITA with the tiara graduation cap.)*

QUEEN

I am so proud.

GHOST OF ATHENA

She took the wrong choice. She should have protected her friends. Now she is betraying them all.

HAMLITA

Stop annoying me, dead mom!

GHOST OF ATHENA

But I gave birth to you. You better make it right. If not, everything will fall apart.

SGT. GIRLIE

Ladies, you're next!

(BRIEL, HORATIA, and OPHELIA walk next to HAMLITA. SERVANTS have brought regular graduation caps and diplomas.)

HAMLITA

Girls, get out of my spotlight. This is my graduation.

BRIEL, HORATIA, AND OPHELIA

OUR graduation!

OPHELIA

Why do you get that beautiful crown?

HAMLITA

Hello. Because I'm the princess. And I'm more beautiful than you.

OPHELIA

No I am!

BRIEL

No I am!

HORATIA

No I am!

BRIEL

Well, I know that I am more beautiful than you, HORATIA.

(HORATIA gasps. BRIEL and HORATIA quietly arguing with each other.)

OPHELIA

I'm out of here.

HAMLITA

Good.

OPHELIA

Good.

HAMLITA

Fine.

OPHELIA

Fine.

HAMLITA

Great!

OPHELIA

I don't know why we were ever best friends.

HAMLITA

Me either!

(QUEEN plays a blues rhythm on the harmonica.)

BRIEL, HORATIA, AND OPHELIA

My best friend left me.

My best friend left me.

OPHELIA

My tears are like the rain.

I can't go back, I'm so ashamed.

BRIEL, HORATIA, AND OPHELIA

My best friend left meeeeeee!

HORATIA *(with a deep voice)*

And I am so lonely.

BRIEL

Oh no! My mascara's running! I need to go change it.

(BRIEL exits.)

HORATIA

I hate you all!

(HORATIA exits.)

OPHELIA *(to HAMLITA)*

I need to go clear my head. If you want to apologize, I'll be sitting at the river.

(OPHELIA exits.)

GHOST OF ATHENA

Look at your friends, all going crazy because you took the wrong choice. You need to fix it.

(BRIEL and HORATIA enters running.)

HORATIA

Ophelia! She's dead! She drowned!

HAMLITA

What have I done? This gown! Take it off of me. Why didn't I listen to my mother? I'm such a monster. I've betrayed everyone I know.

(HAMLITA turns to the QUEEN.)

HAMLITA

You!

(QUEEN picks up HAMLITA's sword. HAMLITA turns to the GHOST OF ATHENA.)

HAMLITA

Mallet!

(GHOST OF ATHENA throws HAMLITA the mallet. HAMLITA catches the mallet, bops SGT. GIRLIE and QUEEN on the head. THEY fall. HAMLITA spikes the mallet.)

HAMLITA

Not to gown!