

Amelia?

A 10 minute play

By Evan Spreen

Contact:
Evan Spreen
Espreen@gmail.com

Characters:

Megan: 28 James' girlfriend.

James: 32 Megan's boyfriend

Amelia?: (Any age) A mysterious individual wearing a cat costume. Ridiculous but genuine. A strong pour of Cheshire cat with two parts Cat in the Hat and a shot of Felix (the cat). Truly believes that they are a cat.

Earhart: 39 Amelia Earhart. American aviation pioneer. First female aviator to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean.

2.
2.

Lights up. Outdoors. Somewhere in the midwest. The sun is going down. There is a picnic table on one side of the stage and a large cylindrical storm drain on the other.

MEGAN (O.S.)

Amelia!?

JAMES (O.S.)

Amelia!?

A couple - JAMES and MEGAN enter from opposite sides of the stage. James holds a flashlight. Megan is shaking a ziplock baggie of cat food.

MEGAN

Did you find her?

JAMES

No.

MEGAN

Amelia!?

JAMES

Maybe this is her subtle attempt at transitioning to full-time outdoor cat.

MEGAN

She's old and a little deaf.

JAMES

Then why are we calling her??

MEGAN

Just go back inside. I'll find her.

JAMES

No, I'm out here now. May as well look.

MEGAN

You don't even like her. Just let me find her, okay? Amelia!?

JAMES

I like her.

MEGAN

You never pet her. You want her to live outside.

JAMES

I'm allergic.

MEGAN

Well, then take something for it.

JAMES

I did. I do. I think I'm exceeding the daily dosage.

MEGAN

Let's break up.

JAMES

Woah! What? That's a jump.

MEGAN

I don't think we're ready to move in together. I'm making you overdose on over-the-counter allergy meds, you don't like my cat, and I feel like you're moving in with me just because you like having sex with me enough to put up with the things you don't like about me.

JAMES

What? Megan, I like you for you. The sex is great. Like really really great. But I'm here because I like being around you. And I'm adapting to your cat. I'm adaptable.

MEGAN

If you're so adaptable, then why did you leave the door open after I told you 157,000 times not to leave it open?

JAMES

I didn't! If I did, it was on accident. I'm not used to living with an animal. I didn't let your cat out on purpose, okay?

MEGAN

Yeah, okay.

JAMES

Please, I'm being real with you.

MEGAN

I don't know that! Who gets to decide what's real?

JAMES

No one does! Real is just real.

MEGAN

I need some time.

JAMES

Where are you going?

MEGAN

To find my fucking cat! Amelia!?

Megan storms off. James is left onstage. He sighs and then starts searching the storm drain with his flashlight.

JAMES

Amelia? Pss pss pss. Amelia!?

A large middle-aged man in a leotard and cat ears pops out of the storm drain.

AMELIA?

HELLOOOOO! IT IS I! AMELIA! I AM THE CAT KNOWN TO THE WORLD AS AMELIA. MEOW. WHO BECKONS ME?

JAMES

What. The. Fuck. I'm sorry buddy, I'm just looking for my girlfriend's cat.

AMELIA?

OH AND WHAT PROVIDENCE! For it is I! AMELIA!

JAMES

I'm looking for an actual cat though...

AMELIA?

But, lend me an ear, young prince. OOoOooooHh! There comes a great darkness to consume this land!

JAMES

Yeah. That's called a sunset.

5.

5.

AMELIA?

You have been chosen! Youuuu must deliver us from a great evil. What shall I call yooooou, young prince?

JAMES

James. It's James. I'm 32.

AMELIA?

OH HAPPY DAY! PRINCE JAMES!

JAMES

Listen, It's getting late, and as much as I'd love to stay out here and have a conversation with a grown man wearing a kitty cat costume

AMELIA?

YOU MUST NOW ANSWER THREE RIDDLES.

JAMES

I'm not doing that.

AMELIA?

RIDDLE NUMBER ONE! I have four legs and am covered in hair. Usually friendly, but sometimes act like I don't care. What am I?

JAMES

... A cat.

AMELIA?

OH PRINCE JAMES! IT IS TRUE! THE ONE WHO CAN DECIPHER THE ANCIENT PROPHECIES HAS FINALLY ARRIVED!

JAMES

Okay, okay! Calm down!

AMELIA?

RIDDLE NUMBER TWO! My claws are sharp. My tongue is rough. I will scratch you, if my belly you touch.

JAMES

Cat again.

AMELIA?

OH YES! Oh yesssss. Oh yes, yes, yes! One riddle to go! The most difficult of all: I

have three letters and backwards I am tac. You'll never guess it, but everyone calls me:

6.

6.

JAMES

Cat! You're a fucking cat! I get it!!

AMELIA?

(Big gasp)

HOORAY! Ooooooooooh! You've completed the trial that has bested even the bravest heroes in all history. But now we must make haste. The queen of the fairies must not be kept waiting! OooOoooh! I will lead you through the swamps of anguish to the great sword of Shamalaha! Only the hero who wields the sword of legend shall vanquish the darkness.

Amelia? disappears into the storm drain.

JAMES

I'm not going in there.

AMELIA?

(creates an echo)

Hurry, hurry, hurry, hurry, hurry.

JAMES

This is ridiculous.

AMELIA?

You get to decide, James, james, james, james.

JAMES

You know what? Fine, catman. Let's do it. Because I am ready for anything. I am adaptable. And if I've gotta crawl through a sewer to prove it then so be it!

James exits through the storm drain. Megan enters.

MEGAN

Amelia!? Ugghghhhhhh. Come on! Amelia!?

Megan sits at picnic table in defeat and pulls out her phone. AMELIA EARHART enters and sits next to her.

EARHART

Hello.

MEGAN

Hey...

7.
7.

EARHART

You called me?

MEGAN

No, Amelia Earhart. I'm looking for my cat. Who is incidentally also called Amelia. I was looking for her and then I got into a fight with my boyfriend.

EARHART

Oh, I'm sorry to hear that.

MEGAN

Have you ever felt lost? Everything seemed so clear in the beginning and now it feels like I've lost my way.

EARHART

Yes. I've felt that. When I was

MEGAN

No, it's okay. I was trying to look up animal shelters to call, but I got distracted by this article. Look at these pictures of Mars.

EARHART

(looks at phone and gasps)

Mars? The planet? Who took this photograph?

MEGAN

A robot? Like a little wheely robot.

EARHART

Oh my. Have you met this robot?

MEGAN

No, he's on Mars.

EARHART

How incredible. It seems one day we will truly be masters of what lies beyond the sky, as well as all that is beneath and within.

MEGAN

I guess so?

You're shivering.	EARHART	
It got dark really fast.	MEGAN	
		8.
		8.
Here, put this on.	EARHART	
No, it's not too bad.	MEGAN	
Please dear, I insist.	EARHART	
	Earhart gives Megan her scarf and helps her put it on.	
Thanks.	MEGAN	
Now, tell me what happened.	EARHART	
Just a fight.	MEGAN	
Tell me.	EARHART	
He doesn't like my cat.	MEGAN	
Oh.	EARHART	
What do you mean, "oh"?	MEGAN	
If you're going to have a co-pilot, then you need to start trusting him.	EARHART	
Is that what you did?	MEGAN	

Beat. Amelia Earhart sniffles.

MEGAN

Oh crap. I shouldn't have said that. I wasn't thinking.

EARHART

It's fine. It just gets hard being a ghost in someone else's story.

9.

9.

MEGAN

Wanna see some more outer space pics?

EARHART

No, I think the moment has passed.

MEGAN

Okay.

EARHART

Good luck finding your cat.

Amelia Earhart exits without scarf. Megans stands from picnic table. James enters. He is filthy and carries a sword made out of cardboard.

JAMES

Hey.

MEGAN

Hey.

JAMES

I'm sorry.

MEGAN

Me too.

JAMES

Did you find her?

MEGAN

No, did you?

James shakes head. They both turn to audience

and shout:

BOTH

AMELIA!?

END PLAY