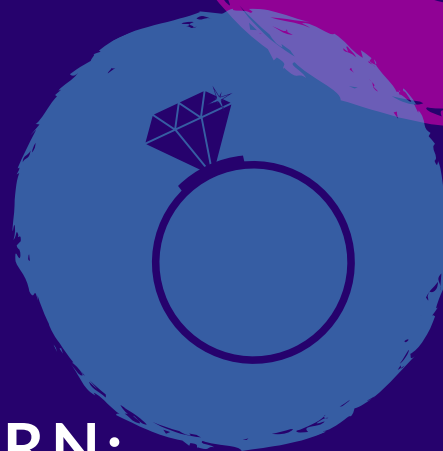
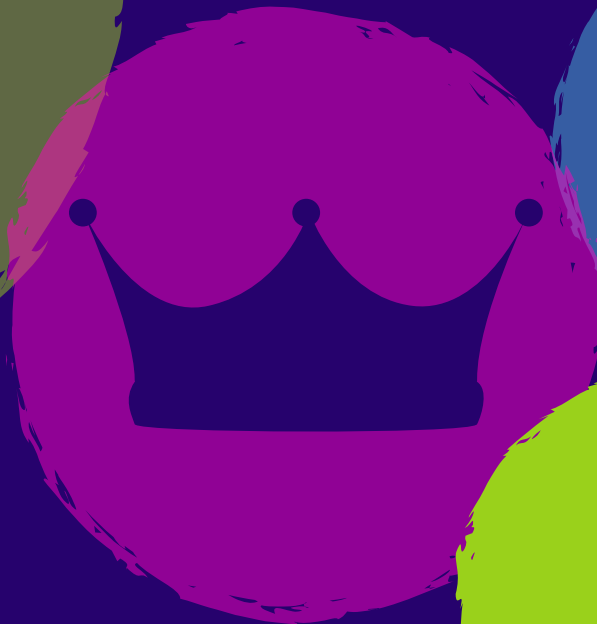
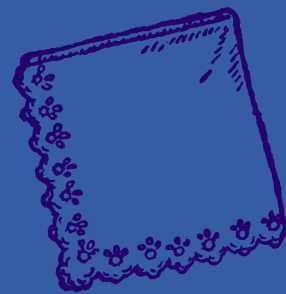




**ABLE**  
artists breaking limits & expectations

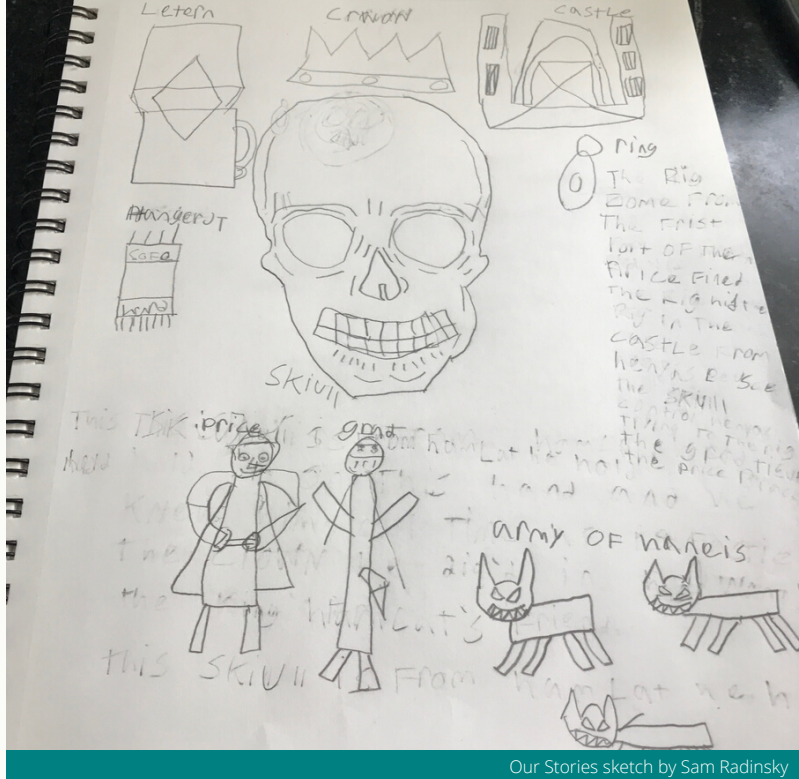


# 0 FOR A MUSE

original stories inspired by  
Shakespeare's famous props

**VOLUME 3 OF 5**

**THE LANTERN:  
GOOD DEFEATS RIDDLE**



Our Stories sketch by Sam Radinsky

## LET US ON YOUR IMAGINARY FORCES WORK...

### What can we make together?

After the success of ***O for a Muse: Part 1*** in the winter of 2019, A.B.L.E.'s adult ensemble was excited to devise a theatrical event inspired by a new batch of iconic Shakespearean props - a crown, a ring, a lantern, a handkerchief, and a skull. The ensemble was 3 weeks into rehearsals when the COVID-19 pandemic up-ended our lives in Chicago, and lives of people around the globe.

We found ourselves in a brave new world, without a rehearsal room, without a theatre, but with a lot of hope. In the weeks since, our entire team has tested our resiliency, learned new ways to work together, and remained determined to share our stories.

**When the world feels topsy-turvy, that's when the arts are the most valuable.** It can lift your spirits to connect with your community, to know you have something to contribute, and to create something new. That is what A.B.L.E. has always been about. And it's in that spirit that we forged ahead with a new vision for ***O for a Muse***.

Each volume of our short story collection features an original story and illustrations by our ensemble of actors with Down syndrome and other developmental disabilities. In these pages, you'll also find an opportunity to use your imagination and create something yourself. We believe everyone is A.B.L.E. to connect, to contribute, and to create. And that includes you, dear reader.

Whether onstage or on the page, our stories cannot come to life without an audience. Thank you for reading.

**KATIE YOHE**

Founder & Executive Artistic Director

# O FOR A MUSE

SHORT STORY COLLECTION

VOLUME 3 OF 5

## FEATURE

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## BEHIND THE SCENES

**Our process**  
page 15

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**Credits**  
page 21

**For other stories and exclusive content, visit:**

[www.ableensemble.com/muse](http://www.ableensemble.com/muse)

# THE LANTERN: GOOD DEFEATS RIDDLE

---

Story & Illustrations by The A.B.L.E. Ensemble

One day, Harry Potter was walking through the forest behind Hogwarts in search of ingredients for a secret *Wingardium Leviosa* spell that he, Ron, and Hermione were working on.

As he walked, he noticed the woods were growing darker.

He looked up and was scared to see 100,000 spiders hanging from the trees! **There were so many spiders that they blocked the sun.**

Harry had not seen so many spiders since Aragog's funeral!





Harry uttered a dispersal spell using the magic words *Scatterious-Spiderous* and the spiders scattered away.

As they scattered, something hard fell on Harry's head. He looked down and saw a lantern at his feet.

**As Harry inspected the lantern, his scar tingled. He knew he had to learn more about it.**



After midnight, Harry snuck into the library and grabbed a book on magic lanterns, written by the renowned lantern maker, Scott.

Flipping through he found a drawing that looked similar to the lantern he found in the forest. His scar tingled again. Harry read:

***“The Katie Lantern has been vexing wizards for centuries. The Dark Lord used a time machine to travel back more than 500 years and curse this particular lantern. Anyone who tries to use the lantern will have their hands horribly burned and will never be able to hold a wand again.”***

But Harry had touched the lantern, and his hands weren't burned. Harry's scar tingled again. He understood. Because of his past encounters with the Dark Lord, he must be immune to the curse. That meant he was the only one who could destroy it! He continued reading:

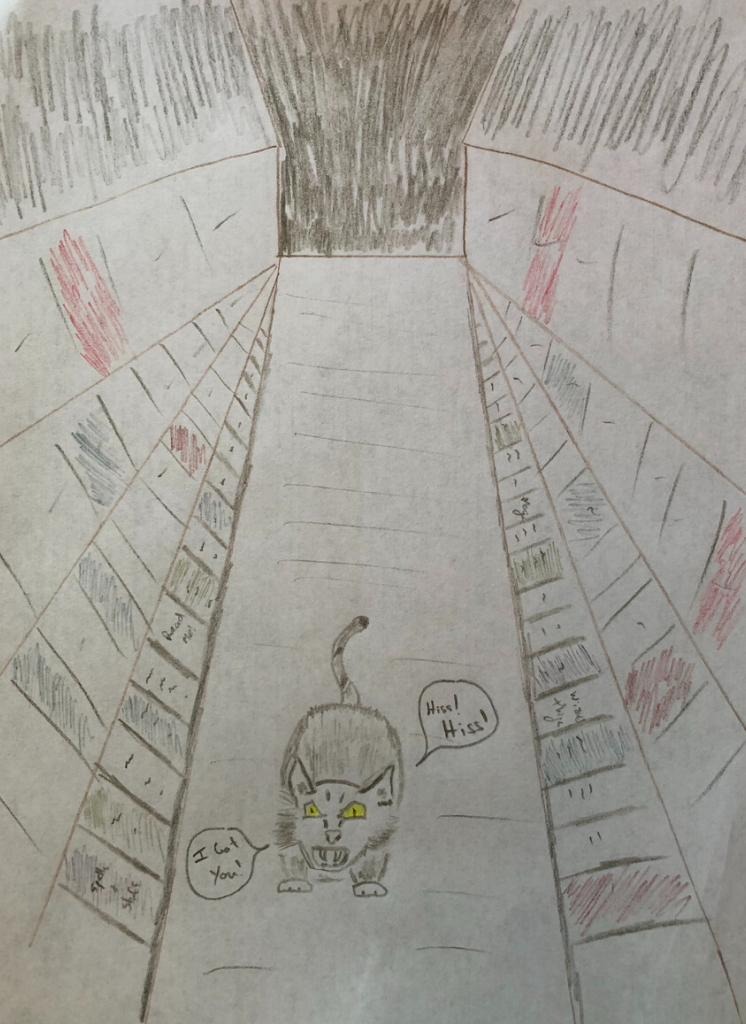
***“Those who use magic in the presence of the lantern will fail. The lantern can only be destroyed by tumbling back through eternity. Behind a pureblood's home is a hole so deep there is no bottom. The lantern will fall forever with no end.”***



# THE LANTERN







Mrs. Norris in the library by Lawrence Kern

As Harry tried to comprehend these instructions, he felt something brush against his leg. It was Mrs. Norris, the cat! Argus Filch was not far behind. He ran into the library yelling "Hiss-hiss! I GOT YOU!."

Harry grabbed the lantern and bolted past Filch back to Gryffindor tower.

As he ran through the halls, he remembered another time he had to run away from Malfoy Manor. Draco's backyard had a hole. Could this be the bottomless hole the book spoke of? If so, Harry could destroy the lantern forever! It was worth a try.

He grabbed his invisibility cloak and his Nimbus 2000 and flew out the window of Gryffindor common room towards Malfoy Manor.



Harry flies away from Hogwarts by Katie Yohe

Harry landed in the Malfoy's backyard. Through the window, he could see Lucius and Narcissa Malfoy.  
He crept towards the hole.

Suddenly, Tom Riddle appeared before Harry, blocking his path. "You can take off the cloak Potter," he said. "I know you're there."

Harry reluctantly pulled off his invisibility cloak just in time to see Tom Riddle draw his wand and utter the unforgivable curse "*Fangious!*"

But nothing happened.

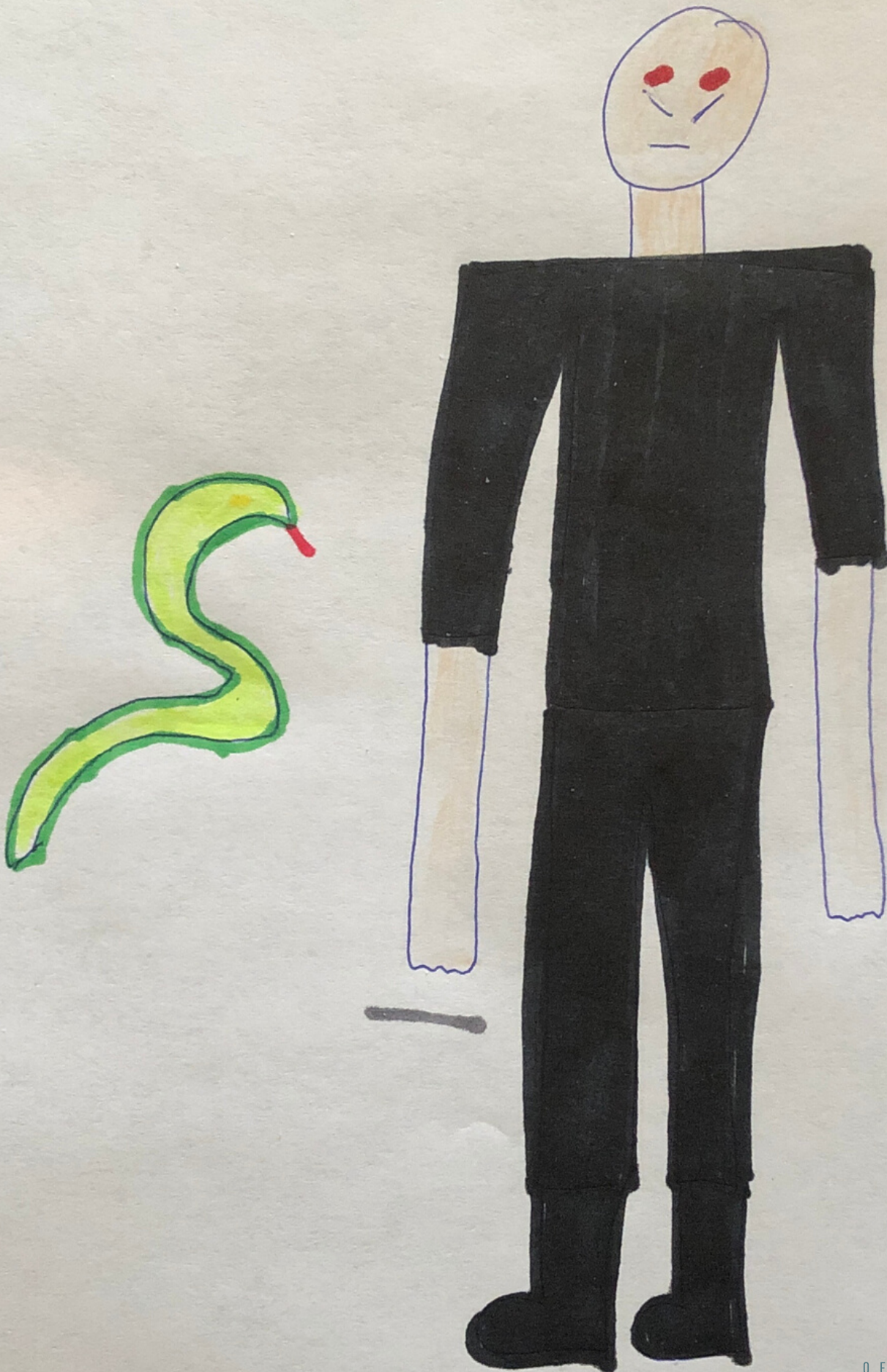
He shouted, "*MARBLES!*"

Nothing.

Riddle even tried a simple *Whoop Whoop* spell.

**Nothing worked.**





Harry remembered the book's words: ***"Those who use magic in the presence of the lantern will fail."***

He realized he would have to use muggle tricks to defeat Riddle. He pointed over Riddle's shoulder and shouted, "Look it's Lily and James Potter!"

Riddle turned, and in that split second, Harry tossed the lantern into the hole. As it fell, much to his surprise, Riddle was sucked into the hole as well! Harry could hear him cry "MOTHER! FATHER! COME BACK TO ME!"

**Feeling happy, Harry flew back to Hogwarts to tell his friends the good news that Tom Riddle had fallen forever!**







# CREATE YOUR OWN MADLIBS

## How do you think the story should go?

Work with a friend, or by yourself to write your own version of *The Story of the Lantern* by filling in the blanks below.

One day, Harry Potter was walking through the forest behind Hogwarts in search of ingredients for a secret **(what kind of spell?)** \_\_\_\_\_ spell he, Ron, and Hermione were working on.

He noticed the woods were growing darker. He looked up and was **(How does Harry feel?)** \_\_\_\_\_ to see **(How many spiders?)** \_\_\_\_\_ spiders hanging from the trees. There were so many that they blocked the sun. Harry had not seen so many spiders since Aragog's funeral. He uttered a dispersal spell using the magic words **(What are the words for a dispersal spell?)** \_\_\_\_\_ and the spiders scattered away.

As they scattered, something hard fell on Harry's head. He looked down and saw a lantern at his feet. As Harry inspected the lantern, his scar tingled. He knew he had to learn more about it.

After midnight, Harry snuck to the library and grabbed a book on magic lanterns, written by the renowned lantern maker **(What is this wizard's name?)** \_\_\_\_\_. Flipping through he found a drawing that looked similar to the lantern he found in the forest. His scar tingled again. Harry read:

*"The **(What is the Lantern's name?)** \_\_\_\_\_ Lantern has been vexing wizards for centuries. The Dark Lord used a time machine to travel back more than 500 years and curse this particular lantern. Anyone who tries to use the lantern will have their hands horribly burned and will never be able to hold a wand again."*

But Harry had touched the lantern, and his hands weren't burned. Harry's scar tingled again. He understood. Because of his past encounters with the Dark Lord, he must be immune to the curse. That meant he was the only one who could destroy it! He continued read:

*"Those who use magic in the presence of the lantern will fail. The lantern can only be destroyed by tumbling back through eternity. Behind a pureblood's home is a hole so deep there is no bottom. The lantern will fall forever with no end."*

As Harry tried to comprehend these instructions, he felt something brushing against his leg. It was Mrs. Norris, the cat! Argus Filch was not far behind. He ran into the library yelling **(What did Argus Filch say)** “\_\_\_\_\_.” Harry grabbed the lantern and bolted past Filch back to Gryffindor tower.

As he ran through the halls, Harry remembered another time he had to run away from Malfoy Manor. Draco’s backyard had a hole. Could this be the bottomless hole the book spoke of? If so, Harry could destroy the lantern forever! It was worth a try.

He grabbed his invisibility cloak and his Nimbus 2000 and flew out the window of Gryffindor common room towards Malfoy Manor.

Harry landed in the Malfoy’s backyard. Through the window, he could see Lucius and **(Who else is at the manor?)** \_\_\_\_\_. He crept towards the hole. Suddenly, Tom Riddle appeared before Harry, blocking his path.

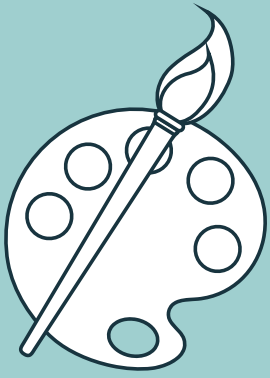
“You can take off the cloak, Potter,” he said. “I know you’re there.”

Harry reluctantly pulled off his invisibility cloak just in time to see Tom Riddle draw his wand and utter the words **(What’s an unforgivable spell?)** \_\_\_\_\_. But nothing happened. He tried a **(what kind of spell?)** \_\_\_\_\_ spell. Nothing. And even a simple **(what’s another spell?)** \_\_\_\_\_ spell. Nothing worked.

Harry remembered the book’s words: *“Those who use magic in the presence of the lantern will fail.”* He realized he would have to use muggle tricks to defeat Riddle.

Harry pointed over Riddle’s shoulder and shouted “Look! It’s **(what amazing thing does Harry pretend to see?)** \_\_\_\_\_.” Riddle turned, and in that split second, Harry tossed the lantern into the hole. As it fell, much to his surprise, Riddle was sucked into the hole as well! Harry could hear him scream **“(what are Tom Riddle’s last words?)** \_\_\_\_\_.”

Feeling **(How does Harry feel)** \_\_\_\_\_, Harry flew back to Hogwarts to tell his friends the good news that Tom Riddle had fallen forever!



# CREATE YOUR OWN ILLUSTRATIONS

**What is your favorite moment from this story?**

*Grab some crayons, colored pencils, or markers and use these blank spaces to put your imagination on paper.*

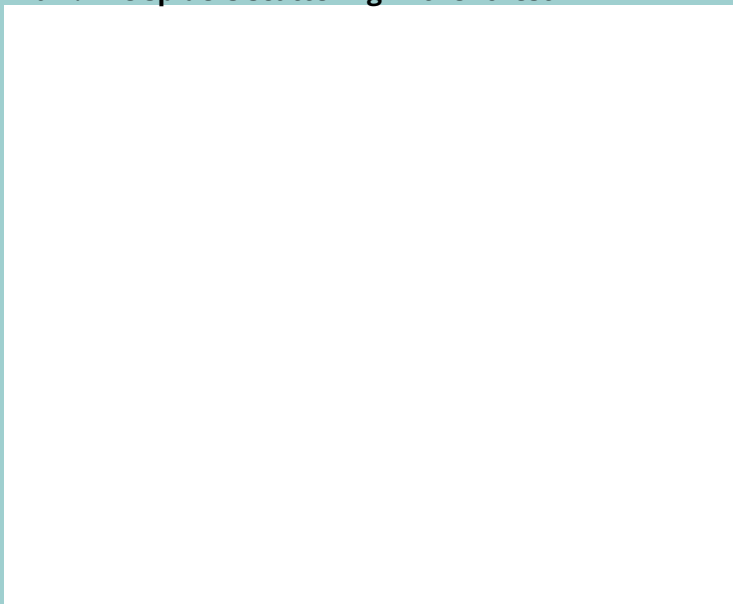
A large, empty white rectangular area intended for drawing or writing.



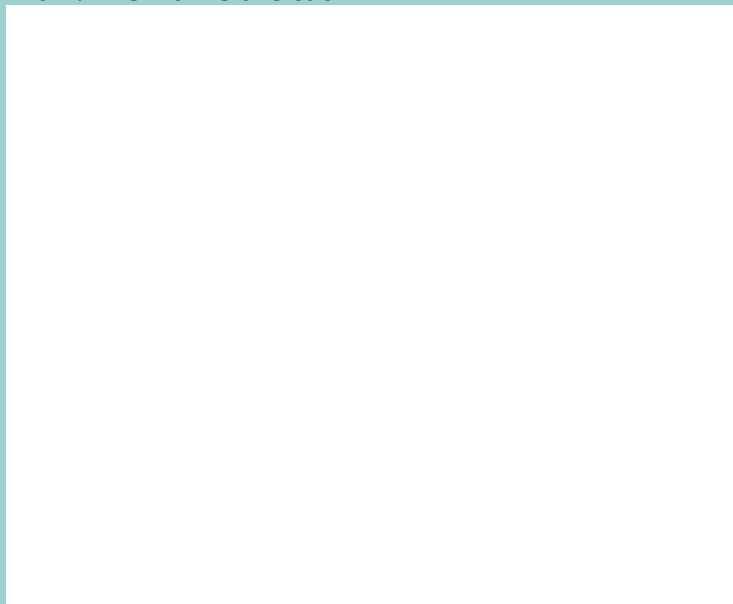
# Need some inspiration?

Here are some ideas from our ensemble

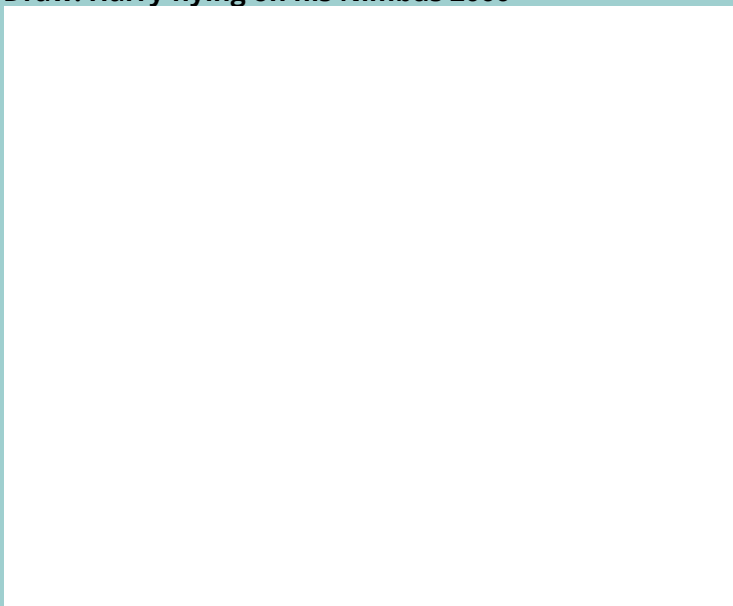
**Draw: The spiders scattering in the forest**



**Draw: Mrs Norris the cat**



**Draw: Harry flying on his Nimbus 2000**



**Draw: Tom Riddle casting spells**



**We want to see what you've created!**

Snap a photo of your artwork or your madlibs  
and share on social media using the hashtag #ableensemble and #oforamuse



@ableensemble

# MAKING OUR STORIES

*A look at A.B.L.E.'s devising process*



## IN PERSON

Before Chicago's shelter-in-place order went into effect, A.B.L.E.'s adult ensemble had 3 in person rehearsals at The Menomonee Club Drucker Center. You can see photos from our time together on pages 18 and 19.

**In Week 1**, actors focused on **ensemble building**, and basic **improvisational skills**. As with all A.B.L.E. sessions, the group developed teamwork, listening, and creativity.

**In Week 2**, actors **devised** the basics stories for our 5 Shakespearean objects. Objects were spread around the studio with a facilitator and a big piece of paper at each station.

Actors broke into pairs or trios and rotated around the room, with each group answering a different question about each object (*see next page*). Each actor had a chance to answer one question about each object, so these stories truly belong to everyone.

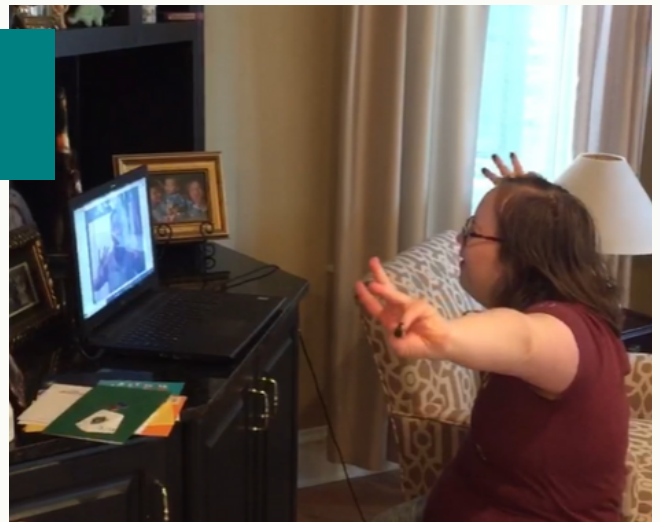
**In Week 3**, actors dug deeper into the stories by creating **tableaux** of the primary locations and improvising short interactions between **characters**. They also played with **scenes** from some Shakespeare plays including *Richard III*, *Macbeth*, and *Hamlet*.

## ONLINE

A.B.L.E. shifted to **weekly online rehearsals** via Zoom on March 17th. Zoom rehearsals keep the same format as in-person rehearsals, with a **dance party, warm up, and ample time for ensemble games**.

With the basic structure of each story in place, actors played **madlibs** (*see pages 12-13*) to add details and life to each story. The ensemble worked on 2 stories each week, and used the time between classes to draw pictures of their favorite moments.

In addition to focusing on the tales, actors also practiced **on-camera acting skills** by filming Shakespeare monologues and group activities. You can see these film projects across A.B.L.E.'s social media channels on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube.



# DEVisING QUESTIONS



**WHO** does this object belong to?



**WHERE** did this object come from and **WHERE** does our story take place?



**WHEN** was this object made and **WHEN** does our story take place?



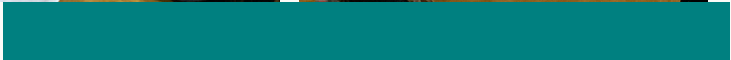
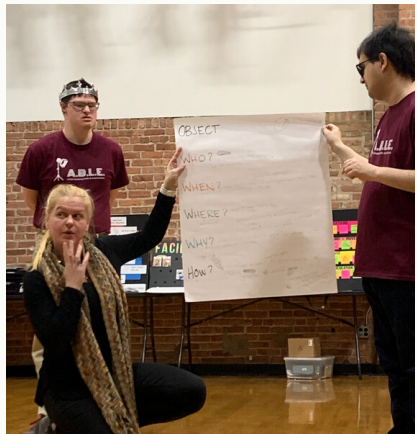
**WHY** is this object special?



**HOW** does our story end?



# OUR TIME TOGETHER





# DEVISING AND IMPROVISING





# MEET THE ENSEMBLE



photo by Mariana Gongora

## **A.B.L.E.'s adult ensemble meets every Tuesday afternoon.**

Supported by a team of teaching artists and volunteer facilitators, ensemble members work together to create theatre and film projects while strengthening lifelong skills including communication, confidence, and cooperation.





**BEN**

**My catchphrase is,,,**  
"What the heaven?!"



**MARTY**

**I would like to go...**  
To Los Angeles to be a famous actor. I will have a house with a swimming pool.



**MATT D.**

**My catchphrase is,,,**  
"Seriously?"



**PETER**

**I would like to learn...**  
how to play an instrument.



**ANDREW**

**My catchphrase is...**  
"Are you ready?"



**EMILY K.**

**Something special to me...**  
pictures of me with my family and my sister Anna.



**MATT L.**

**I would like to go...**  
To the future to see myself and know that it's going to turn out okay.



**EMILY L.**

**I would like to learn...**  
How to talk to animals.



**MADDI**

**Something special to me...**  
I have a statue of the Eiffel Tower from my trip to Paris.



**JUSTICE**

**Something special to me...**  
A statue of a mother and baby elephant. I love elephants and my mom.



**SAM**

**I would like to learn...**  
to speak fluent sign language.



**JAKE**

**I would like to go...**  
to the movies, diners, shopping and entertainment when we get back to normal.





# A.B.L.E.

artists breaking limits & expectations

A.B.L.E. - Artists Breaking Limits & Expectations - is a Chicago-based nonprofit that creates theatre and film for, with, and by individuals with Down syndrome and other developmental disabilities. A.B.L.E.'s mission is to provide performing arts opportunities through which individuals with these disabilities can share who they are and all they are A.B.L.E. to do. Through its core teen and adult ensembles, specialized workshops, and outreach programming, A.B.L.E.'s actors strengthen lifelong skills including communication, focus, creativity, and teamwork. A.B.L.E.'s ensembles have staged 20 plays ranging from original works to classics from Shakespeare, Dickens, and Gilbert & Sullivan, and have premiered 2 feature films which have been recognized by several local and international festivals. By promoting practices that place participants with disabilities in the spotlight, and giving them ownership over their experiences, A.B.L.E.'s work strives to shift societal preconceptions, and build more inclusive, empathetic communities.

## CONNECT WITH A.B.L.E.

 [www.ableensemble.com](http://www.ableensemble.com)

 [facebook.com/ableensemble](https://facebook.com/ableensemble)

 [@ableensemble](https://@ableensemble)

 [bit.ly/abletube](https://bit.ly/abletube)

 [admin@ableensemble.com](mailto:admin@ableensemble.com)

### **O FOR A MUSE: VOLUME 3**

#### **THE LANTERN - GOOD DEFEATS RIDDLE**

RELEASED JUNE 5, 2020

#### **THE ENSEMBLE**

BENJAMIN COLLINS, MARTIN CONWAY, MATT DANAHER,  
PETER GRZESLO, ANDREW KOSNIK, EMILY KWIDZINSKI,  
MATTHEW LACHAPELLE, EMILY LAVIN, MADDI PEREZ,  
JUSTICE PETERS-FARRELL, SAM RADINSKY, & JAKE  
SOLWORTH

#### **TEACHING ARTISTS**

LAWRENCE KERN & KATIE YOHE

#### **FACILITATORS**

NETTE ANGELINI, CLAIRE CHRZAN, KARA DAVIDSON,  
ARIN MULVANEY, & BEN RAANAN

#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

CHICAGO SHAKESPEARE THEATER  
KATIE MANN AND 4TH WALL THEATRE COMPANY  
THE MEMOMONEE CLUB DRUCKER CENTER

#### **OTHER VOLUMES IN THIS COLLECTION**

THE ABUNDANT CROWN PRINCE  
THE RING AND THE MERMAID IN LOVE  
JUSTICE FOR GREASY KING LEAR  
ONCE UPON A HYENA TIME: THE STORY OF THE SKULL

We believe everyone is A.B.L.E.  
to connect, to contribute, and to create.  
Help us bring more projects to life.  
Visit [bit.ly/giveable](https://bit.ly/giveable) to make a donation.

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