

STORIES ON STAGE 2020-21

TEAM C

A Wish Comes True (adapted from *The Pop-up*)

List of Characters and Roles

Sharon (a 13-year-old girl who has a crush on James and wants to go out with him on a date)

Genie (a magical being that is looking for a successor; raps when he speaks)

Mr Wong (a 38-year-old teacher who teaches CL; has a quirky sniffing problem)

James (a hard-working, handsome and intelligent student in Sharon's class, the dream boy)

Mr Lee (the school principal)

Ken (a 35-year-old foreigner in the movie theatre)

Gary (a naughty student in Mr Wong's class)

Scene 1: The Jungle

Lights up.

(SFX: bell rings https://youtu.be/gC_VkZeNywM')

Mr Wong arrives outside the computer room, where students are playing noisily.

Downstage right, Sharon is at her desk, headphones on, gazing at James, who sits on the other side of the classroom.

Mr Wong: Ugh. *(sniffles)* I have to face these brats again! *(entering the room, he hears a cacophony of sounds coming from his students)*

(SFX: Door opening - https://youtu.be/-dZ_Zz9Ppjjg)

Mr Wong: *(shouting)* Silence!

Students ignore Mr Wong.

Mr Wong: Siiiiiiiiiii - lence! (*everyone stops what they are doing*) (*sniffles*) Today we are going to talk about (*sniffles*) the use of Google. (*sniffles*) (*Mr Wong is about to continue talking but is rudely interrupted when video game music blares*)

(*SFX: Video game music - <https://youtu.be/Twi92KYddW4>*)

Spotlight on Gary.

Mr Wong: (*angrily*) Hey! Who (*sniffles*) is that? (*looking around with razor sharp eyes*) Don't think I didn't hear that! (*sniffles*)

Gary: (*rudely*) Sorry, Mr Wong. I *accidentally* clicked into a video game.

Mr Wong: Don't let me see or hear that again (*sniffles*) or you'll be sitting in the principal's office all day. (*sniffles*)

Gary: (*quietly but mockingly*) Don't let me see or hear that again or you'll be sitting in the principal's office all day. (*sniffles, in mocking imitation*)

Mr Wong walks around the classroom and stops at Sharon's desk. He looks at what Sharon is doing as she seems preoccupied.

Mr Wong: Sharon!

Sharon: (*annoyed*) Yes, Mr Wong?

Mr Wong: I hope you are working on your (*sniffles*) Google project.

Sharon: Yeah... yeah... (*sniffles, imitating Mr Wong*)

Mr Wong: (*slightly angry*) Pardon me?! Do you think (*sniffles*) I have forgotten (*sniffles*) about you sabotaging (*sniffles*) my video presentation?!

Other students snicker, and then start to imitate his sniffing and manner of speech and break into laughter.

Mr Wong: (*aside*) These millennials have no (*sniffles*) respect for their teachers. Soon the school will have an awful (*sniffles*) reputation.

(*Spotlight on Sharon.*)

A pop-up appears on Sharon's computer screen. (SFX: Pop-up sound effect - <https://youtu.be/0BxkgtQN4h4>)

Sharon: (*surprised*) What is this? (*leans in to take a closer look*) Genie.com? (*looks around and then sneakily clicks on the pop-up*)

Genie pops out of the computer. (SFX: trap beat - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V5Qga0DFgOI> (0:32 - 0:38))

Genie: Oh hey! Good day! It's your lucky day! Now come and make a wish; the reward is on its way. (*does dance moves in between students' desks while rapping*)

Sharon: (*surprised*) A rapping genie? What... is this...?

Genie: You have three wishes, so type your wishes here. Anything you want - no need to fear.

Sharon: Is this for real? Probably not, but it wouldn't hurt to try. I wish that cute guy James would ask me out on a date. Enter. (*as she types, the wish starts to appear in a projected image at the back, visible only to the Genie*) (*The Genie reads from the projected image*) (*SFX: typing - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z70MOUHQ3TI> (0:00-0:07)*) (*Spotlights on Sharon and James.*)

Genie: (*withdraws his eyes from the screen*) As you wish, it's going to come true now. Just wait and see, and you'll soon say wow. Now you only have two wishes left, by my magic powers you'll be totally impressed. (*walks towards James. He dances as he casts a spell on James*) (*SFX: spell - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GtQhz6YMwPg> (0:48 - 0:54)*) (*Lights flicker*)

James passes a note to Sharon.

Sharon: (*gasps*) A note?! "Wanna go to the movies tonight? I'll pick you up at 6:45pm." (*gasps softly*) It worked! Hmm... what else should I wish for? (*pauses to think of her wishes but her thoughts are interrupted by Mr Wong*)

Mr Wong: Remember the deadline of your assignment is (*sniffles*) tomorrow night! Turn it in one second late (*sniffles*) and you will be sitting in the principal's office all day. (*sniffles*)

Students: (*disgruntled reply*) Awwwwwwww!

Sharon stares at Mr Wong and then a little sinister grin spreads on her face. She proceeds to type.

Sharon: I wish for Mr Wong to die. Oops. Delete. Dis-a-ppear. (SFX: typing)
The Genie reads her wish from the projected image. The Genie gives out an evil laugh as he walks upstage and evaporates. (SFX: Genie's exit -
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GtQhz6YMwPg> (0:03 - 0:06))

Sharon closes her eyes to imagine how Mr Wong would disappear but is quickly disappointed when she opens her eyes and Mr Wong is still there. She looks over at James and sighs staring off into space.

Mr Wong: (irritated) Sharon! Stop daydreaming and drooling over James! (snuffles)

Students: Wooooo - hooooo!

Mr Wong: Get back to work immediately or else you'll ...

Sharon: I know. I know. Or else I'll be sitting in the principal's office all day. (rolls eyes, snuffles then whispers to herself) I guess this website is phony and James's note was just a coincidence.

Blackout.

Scene 2: Date Night

Dim lights.

Sharon and James are watching a movie in the cinema.

Sharon and James are sitting in chairs downstage centre, wearing 3D glasses. Ken, one of the audience members, sits near them.

(SFX: Movie sounds - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zGdF6OXr6t0> (0:09 - 0:13))

Sharon: (laughs loudly) It's so funny!

Ken: (sneering) Shhhhh! We're watching a movie here.

James: (takes a glance at Ken, spills popcorn carelessly) Yeah, that guy's like Mr Wong.

Sharon: (takes out her phone) Just tell me when the exciting part comes. I'm a little bored right now.

James: As bored as when you're in Mr Wong's class? (snuffles)

James and Sharon laugh loudly.

Ken: (*angrily*) Hey! Do you mind? There are other people watching the movie!

James: (*chuckles then whispers to Sharon*) Add some sniffing to that guy and he's literally Mr Wong when he's mad.

Sharon: (*bursts out laughing*) I couldn't agree more!

Ken: SHHHHH!

Blackout.

Scene 3: A Wish Comes True

Mr Wong's home.

Keys jingling. Door creaks open. (SFX: door open -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fq7DqSORHVg> (0:21 - 0:27))

Dim lights on.

Mr Wong's flat has been ravaged. The furniture is in disarray and the window is shattered.

Mr Wong: (*exhausted*) Finally. Home sweet ho- OMG! (*gives out a low cry*) It looks like a tornado ripped through (*sniffles*) here. (*trembling in fear*) Who... who's (*sniffles*) there...? (*picks up a baseball bat from behind the sofa*) I (*sniffles*) have a bat! Show yourself!

Lights out.

Mr. Wong cries in agony and falls to the floor. (SFX: a loud thud and sound of glass smashing - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QhJaPEIJwLI> (1:09 - 1:12))

(Spotlight on Mr Wong's bloody body on the floor)

(SFX: Sirens <https://youtu.be/rCOykaL8Hy4>)

Blackout.

(SFX: Beeping machine flatlines - <https://youtu.be/QjEyjmNkN3k> (1:45 - 1:50))

Scene 4: Unfortunate News

Lights up.

(SFX: School bell - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TrJVgGnA7rw> (0:00 - 0:02))

Students chit-chatting inside the assembly hall. Mr Lee, the principal, appears from stage left and walks downstage behind the lectern. Sharon and James are standing downstage right, slightly apart from other students.

Sharon: James, do you know what's happening?

James: I'm not sure, but the teachers and the principal look pretty glum.

Spotlight on Mr Lee.

Mr Lee: *(clears throat)* I'm afraid I have some unfortunate news to share. Mr Wong, our computer teacher, passed away early this morning.

Everyone gasps.

Mr Lee: The police are still investigating the reason for his death. Let us now observe 3 minutes of silence.

Spotlights on James and Sharon.

Everyone lowers their head. It was so quiet you could hear a pin drop. James and Sharon whisper to each other.

James: *(shocked)* Mr Wong died!?

Sharon: He...really...DIED!?

James: I can't believe it either.

Sharon: *(quietly)* Did the genie really kill Mr Wong?

James: What genie?

Sharon: Oh, nothing.

Mr Lee continues talking. (mime) James listens attentively.

Sharon: *(aside)* I can't do this...I should tell James...He should know the truth.

(teary) James, I have something to tell you...

James: Shhhh! Not now, Sharon. *(watches Mr Lee attentively)*

Sharon: No, this is very important. *(sighs)* I killed Mr Wong. *(lowers her head in shame)*

James: (*in disbelief*) That's impossible. I was with you the whole night. You couldn't have killed Mr Wong. Besides, you wouldn't hurt a fly!

Sharon: (*regretfully*) A pop-up appeared on my computer in the computer lesson, and I wished Mr Wong dead! Somehow the genie is a real genie and ...

James: (*skeptical*) You're speaking rubbish now. I think you're just feeling a bit emotional over Mr Wong's death.

Sharon turns silent. James looks at her intently and realises that she is telling the truth.

James: (*aghast*) You... (*takes a quick glance around them, and then whispers to Sharon, trying to suppress the panic in his voice*) Forget about it. Don't tell anyone. I don't want you to go to jail!

Blackout.

Scene 5: Sharon Captured

Lights fade in.

Rap music fades in. (Music: Why - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZTNs9s_gGg (1:02 - 1:08))

In a bright white realm, the Genie is sitting on a comfortable chair downstage right, listening to a rap song with his headphones. Next to him is a coffee table on which sits a ridiculously large copy of the "Book of The Genie Rules" and a golden Aladdin's lamp. An enormous crystal ball is downstage centre. Mr Wong wakes up. Sitting on the floor upstage left, he sees the Genie.

Mr Wong: (*gasps and looks around in fright*) Where am I? Who are you?

Genie: (*removes his headphones*) (*sassily*) Ugh man, you're finally awake! It's almost noon for goodness' sake! Your sleeping sniffles drove me insane. I've never been in so much pain!

Mr Wong: (*sniffles*) Wait, who are (*sniffles*) you?

Genie: Huh? What? You don't know who I am? I am the Rapping Genie who grants wishes, man.

Mr Wong: Wait, you're a (*sniffles*) genie? Genies don't exist! (*gets up and starts walking slowly to stage centre, closer to the Genie*)

Genie: Of course, we do! We're in every place, but you never count us in your race.

Mr Wong: What? *(sniffles)*

The Genie raises his hand and by magic lights the crystal ball. Mr Wong watches the moving shadows in the crystal ball as the Genie continues to speak.

Genie: Basically, a student called Sharon, you know, made a wish for you to go. *(nonchalantly)* I had to kill you for her wish to be granted; so sorry but it's already been demanded. *(raises his hand again and the crystal ball goes dark and the moving shadows disappear)*

Mr Wong: *(aghast)* Sharon?! *(sniffles)* Why would she... But, anyway, I'm dead. *(sniffles)* Aren't I supposed to go to heaven or something?

Genie: *(picks up the Aladdin's lamp and checks for dust)* No. You're now going under my control; I am keeping your soul. Could let you go on one condition - you have to swear to carry out my mission.

Mr Wong: What is it? *(sniffles)* I'll do anything! *(sniffles)*

Genie: *(puts down the Aladdin's lamp, and then speaks to Mr Wong)* Capture Sharon, and then bring her here, or your chance for freedom is nowhere near.

Mr Wong: *(hesitating)* Ummm... I don't think *(sniffles)* that's such a good idea.

The Genie moves his palm towards Mr Wong and remotely moves him downstage right, seats him in his chair and then speaks again. Terrified, Mr Wong struggles but succumbs under the magic.

Genie: Well, if you were disguised as me, then we could both be free!

Mr Wong: What? I don't want to be a genie.

Genie: Yeah, yeah, exactly. So capture her, and you'll be free!

Blackout.

Scene 6: A Price to Pay

Lights up.

In the white realm, Genie is sitting comfortably on the chair, drinking a cup of coffee. Mr Wong enters from upstage right and is dragging Sharon with him. Sharon is gagged and her screams are muffled.

Mr Wong removes the gag and walks away to stand upstage centre, leaving Sharon catching her breath upstage right.

Sharon: *(feeling lost and frightened)* Wh-where am I...?

Genie: *(does dance moves as he speaks)* Hey Sharon, long time no see. Do you still remember me?

Sharon: *(flabbergasted)* Are you the Genie!?! From that genie.com thingamajig? *(frantically)* Why am I here? *(looks around)* Where am I?

Genie: You're on the webpage! You already forgot about this stage?

Sharon takes a quick glance at Mr Wong and swiftly moves her eyes away in shame.

Genie: Do you remember wanting your teacher to "disappear"? Well abracadabra - your wish is here! So according to the "Book of The Genie Rules", *(lifts the ridiculously large copy of the book)* you shall pay for what you did, you fool!

Sharon: *(complaining)* Wait. What? But nothing was said when I made the wishes!

Genie: A rule is a rule, you silly fool. You'll take my place at genie.com and no more school!

Sharon: *(vehemently)* No way! I'm not!

Genie: Oh, yes you are! *(hands her the "Book of The Genie Rules")* Here's where all the rules are - so bizarre! *(turns to talk to Mr Wong, but starts walking backwards downstage left)* Mr Wong, forget how you were wronged. Listen for the angel's song and your liberation won't be long. You're my swansong, so here I say so long! *(waves goodbye at them)*

The Genie exits downstage left, leaving Mr Wong and Sharon alone. Lights out.

Scene 7: Sharon the Genie

Lights up centre stage.

In his office, Mr Lee is working on his computer. His keyboard clacking. Suddenly, a pop-up appears on the screen.

(SFX: keyboard clacking - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5y7XjtXsQv8> (0:10 - 0:12)) (SFX: pop-up alert - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AOoCn6kQ1FE> (0:20 - 0:22))

Sharon appears downstage right. She is dressed in overalls and wears a beret, like Mario. Spotlight on Sharon.

Mr Lee: What is this? *(adjusts his eye glasses and leans in to take a closer look)*

Sharon: *(aside)* Mr Lee please click on the ad, and then help me get out!

Mr Lee: Genie.com? I wonder what this website is about...

Mr Lee clicks on the pop-up ad.

(SFX: mouse click - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0B0IaNzgpzo>)

(SFX: Mario - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3ijDdxmoiX0> (0:00 - 0:01))

Blackout.

THE END

Production Notes

Music

Why by NF Real Music (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZTNs9s_gGg)

Costumes

Mr Wong: an old plain pale pink short-sleeved shirt, straight trousers, old leather shoes (half-bald)

Gary: school uniform (untidy, shirt not tucked in)

Sharon: school uniform (hair with highlights); blue overalls, a white T-shirt, a red beret, sports shoes

Genie: white T-shirt, a shiny silver suit jacket, jeans with tears, sports shoes

James: school uniform (well-pressed, clean and tidy)

Ken: T-shirt, shorts and sandals

Mr Lee: a white long-sleeved shirt, a tie, straight trousers, a belt, shiny leather shoes

Props

Textbooks

A box of popcorn

A phone

A baseball bat

A copy of the Book of The Genie Rules

A golden Aladdin lamp

A coffee cup

