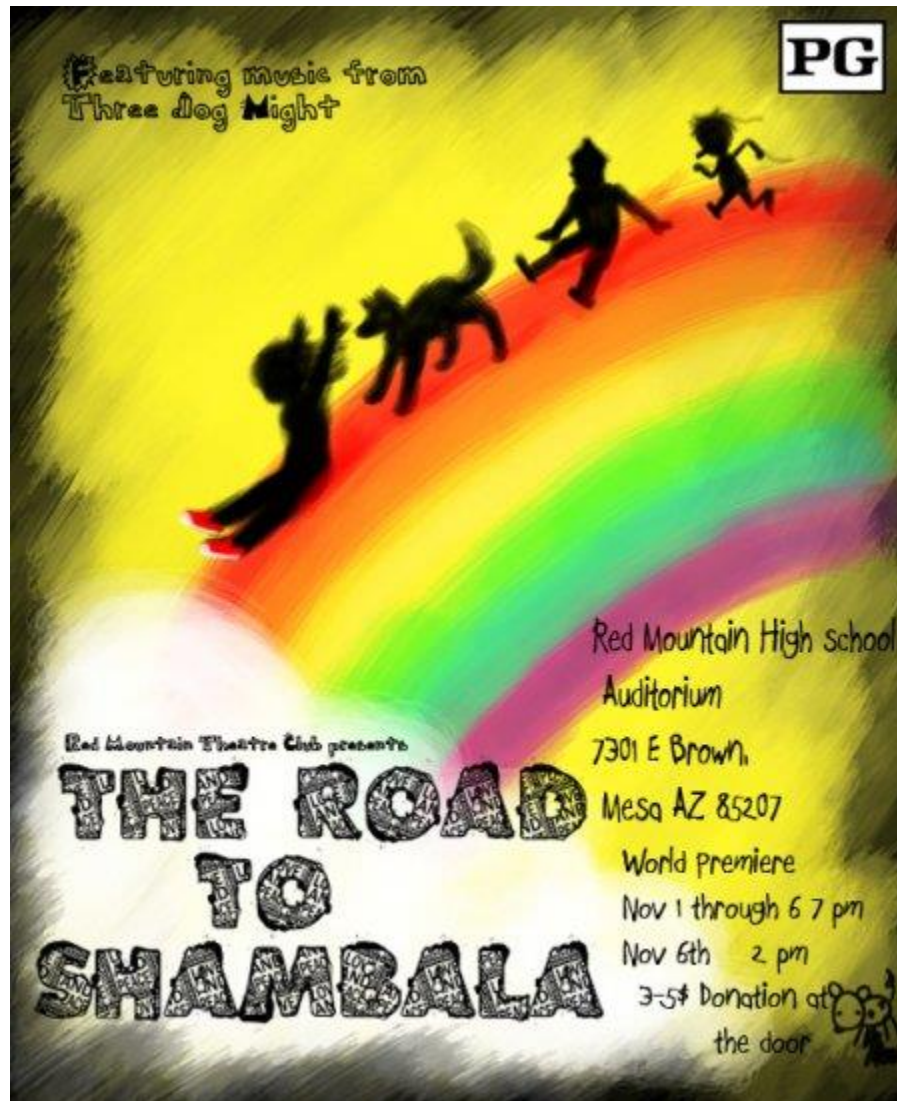


"Everyone is so helpful, everyone is so kind on the road to Shambala," and no matter what, "The show must go on" are motivating lyrics and quotes. Put that together with a whimsical rock and roll rhythm, beat and eclectic theatrics that lead the audience through nostalgia, discovery and inspires an evolved level of thinking about acceptance of self, and others-is the road to a peaceful joyous world.



The Road to Shambala by Tomi Griffin et al. is a new full length musical using the creative genius of the hit band Three Dog Night and the imagination of a class of high school theatre students to create a spectacle of epic proportions that recreate a skewed Wizard of Oz journey through the land of Thespia to find Jeremiah the Shaman of Shambala.



The show opens with Sam, a gorgeous college student of “Tres Perros Noche University” saying goodbye to her lover, Eli, as he is off on yet another “business trip.” She decides to spend the evening watching The Wizard of Oz with her friend Nick, a college theatre student who has just been dumped by his boyfriend. Nick protests that “one is the loneliest number” and Sam feels, “two can be as bad as one”.



They sing this first number in Sam's college dorm room, her girly décor consisting of nostalgic movie posters, images of Elvis, Judy Garland a Three Dog Night poster and copious satin and lace pillows. The two students decide to "step out, why be lonely" and they head to a carnival hosted by the university thespians.



The Thespian Carnival opens up with Sam and Nick getting their faces painted; flowers near their eyes. As they walk into the carnival Sam decides to entertain Nick with her lack of knowledge about world cultures as she has never been anywhere but Arizona.

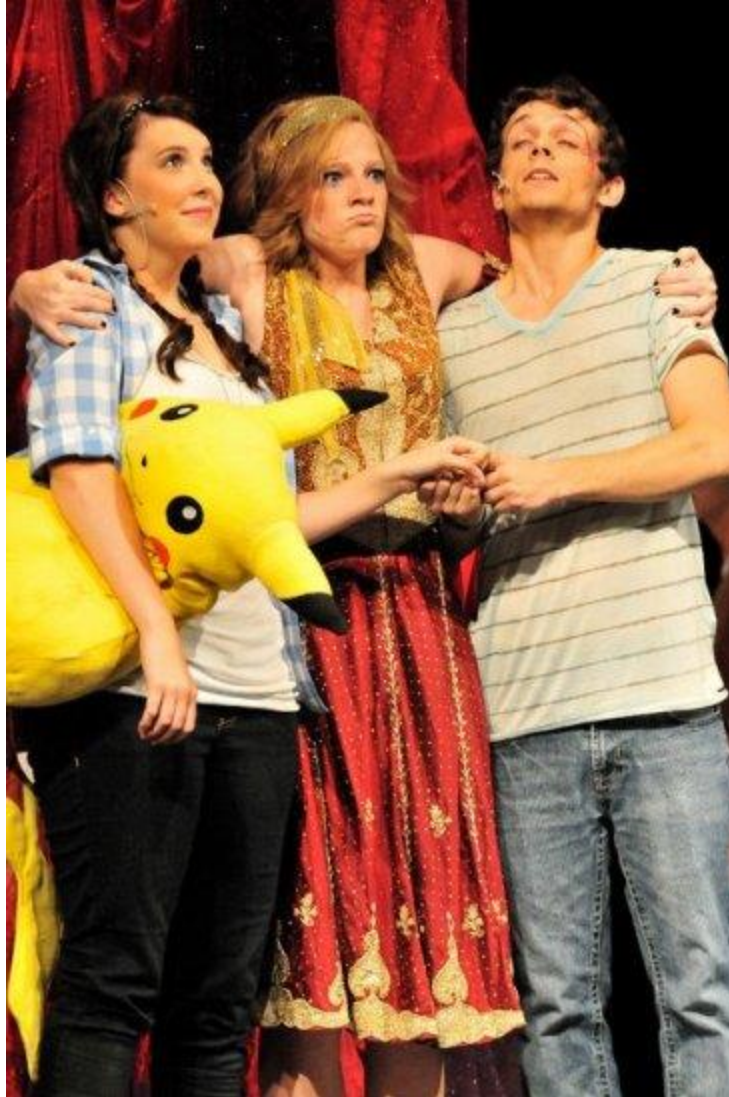


At the Geography Booth Sam answers questions about England and Spain from a theatre nerd named Leo which leads into the number, "Never been to Spain." A mass Flamenco, Oklahoma, Heaven's Angels dance occurs; though somewhat of a slower rhythm the spectacle and energy explodes.

Flamenco Dancers



Victorious in Geography the two move on to the carnival dunk tank where an angry young man in a Phoenix Coyote T-Shirt, Richard, hurls sapphic slurs at them. Sam is offended for her friend and slaps the target dumping the cowardice coyote without buying a ticket.



They move to the Fortune Teller tent where they meet an exotic temptress and her posse of gypsy man-boys who expose through the Tarot cards that Sam's boyfriend, Eli, is a heart breaker. Sam and Nick take the exotic song and dance done by Lydia, the Fortune Teller, and her boys as a joke and they move on deeper into the carnival.



A drinking ladies man of the theatre runs the next booth where gold fish can be won by a ring toss. Sam and Nick move on from this booth when they realize they cannot understand the mumbling carny, Jeremy, who is dressed in a cheesy Frog Prince costume. But Lydia joins Jeremy for a drink as she appreciates that he always has mighty fine wine.



Sam and Nick press on only to discover the Kissing Booth where two of the most beautiful blond cheerleaders are full on making out with her boyfriend, Eli, who was supposed to be on a "business trip!"



Sam confronts him using his own words in an anger song and dance "Liar."

This intoxicating dance done with Sam dancing in between and around carnival guests with intelligent lights spiraling with color and focus leaves

Sam in a heap on the floor as Eli backs away. Nick pulls her together and they walk out of the carnival singing "one is the loneliest number" reprise.



Back at the university dorm room Sam and Nick wonder what next with their broken hearts when an Arizona monsoon storm and flash flood PSA Warning comes on the radio, an old fashion love song plays next which prods Nick to leave and roll up the windows on his car, he can't take an old fashion love song right now. Sam turns off the radio and sits on her bed of satin pillows when the window is thrust open, by a gust of monsoon wind, hitting her on the head and she is out. As theatre Techies move the dorm to simulate it washing away in a flash flood, characters already introduced swirl by giving foreshadow to their "Over the Rainbow" or in this case "under the bridge" characters in Thespia the land of the Thespians.



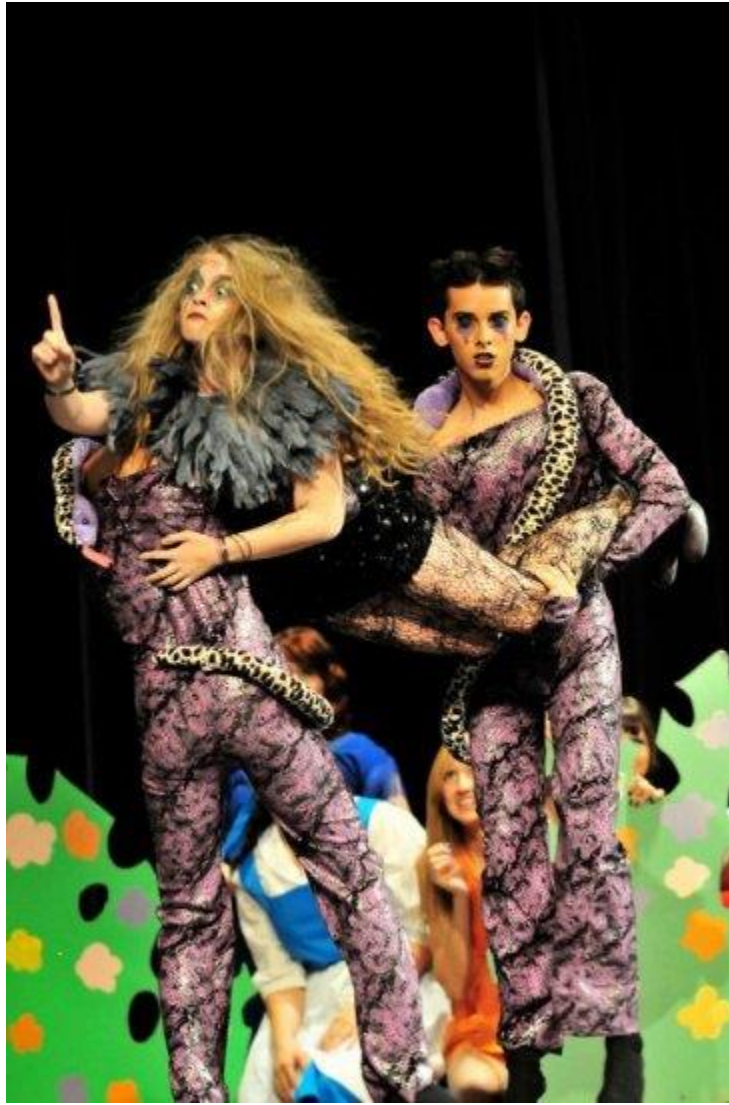
Sam emerges from her dorm to find a colorful land that looks like countless facades of different places, different times, like left over theatrical sets from recognizable plays. She is greeted by Lola/Lydia who is now a stereotypical fairy godmother, and three groups of Thespians. Techies in their typical black goth glory, Snobs and Flamers who are all dressed in left over costumes from various productions. Sam is inquisitive about this new land and the Thespians inform her if she wants to be in a place that is perfect she needs to go to Shambala and find the Bullfrog Jeremiah. Lola and the Thespians sing "Joy to the World."



Before Sam is off she is confronted by the Malevolent Mistress (one of the Blond cheerleaders) who is seeking the one who killed her sister, and yes there is the other cheerleader under the dorm room missing her shoes. Sam, of course, is flabber ghasted, when Lola points out that she is now wearing the "Crimson Converse" the shoes the Malevolent Mistress wants so badly.



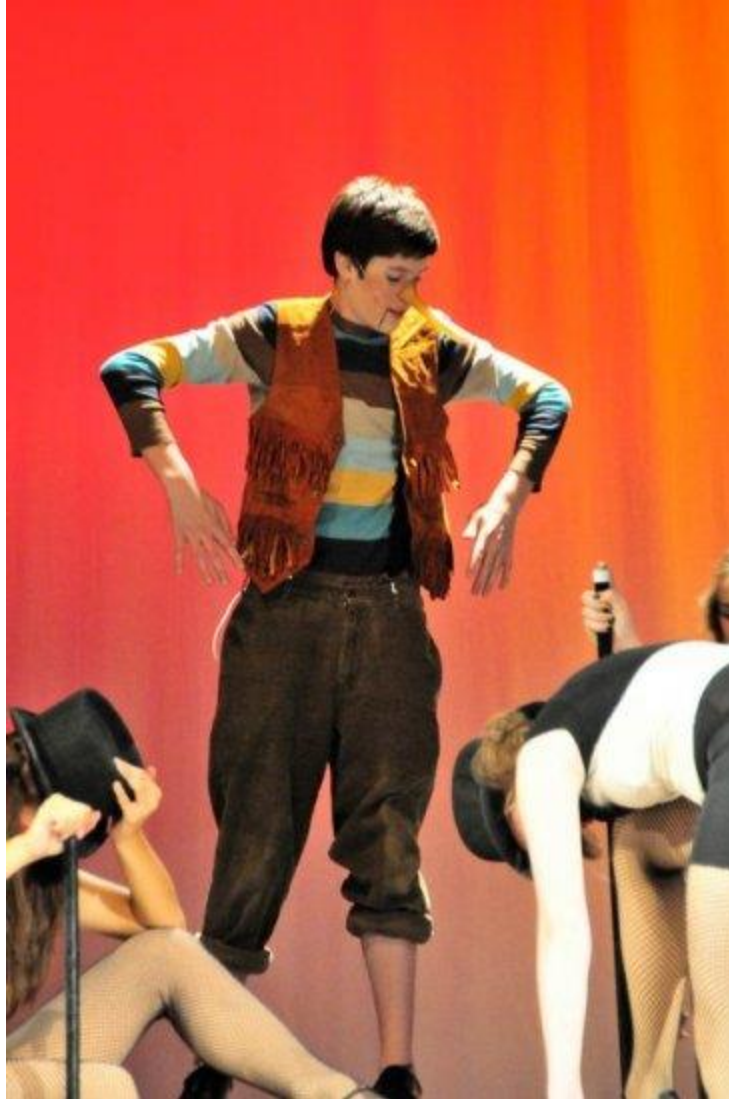
The Malevolent Mistress is strongly encouraged to leave Thespia before a monsoon sweeps a dorm on her, but on her exit threatens Sam with, "I'll get you my pretty and your three little dogs too!" Sam is sent on her way down the rainbow road to find Jeremiah in Shambala.



Not too far down the rainbow road Sam discovers a Three Ring Circus, a real “Greatest Show on earth” with clowns, tricycling midgets, a bearded fat lady etc.



The circus sits on a cross road. Sam vacillates on which road to take when, on the center platform, a Pinocchio Man, Eli, comes alive and explains how he got himself into a bind by wasting time and being a fool, breaking all the rules.



Pinocchio and the massive Circus Chorus, which also has vampires seeking his blood, and wild man puppets sing "The Show Must Go On." Sam seeing that Pinocchio is in inner turmoil invites him to join her on the road to Shambala.



Sam and Pinocchio come upon an orange grove and stop to eat where they come across a Tin man/Nick, or more like a silver painted Adonis, frozen in the orchard, a can of WD40 sits nearby next to an old Wurlitzer Radio. Sam and Pinocchio lube the Tin man up, and while he loosens up his body he explains how he got there. He rusted from tears brought on by "An Old Fashion Love Song" playing on the radio. Sam and Pinocchio invite Tin to join them on the road to Shambala, but before they can get going the Malevolent Mistress descends upon them with more threats of impending doom if the two fine gentlemen help the little lady along. The fine gentlemen vow to aid Sam whether Pinocchio gets to be a real boy or Tin gets his heart fixed.



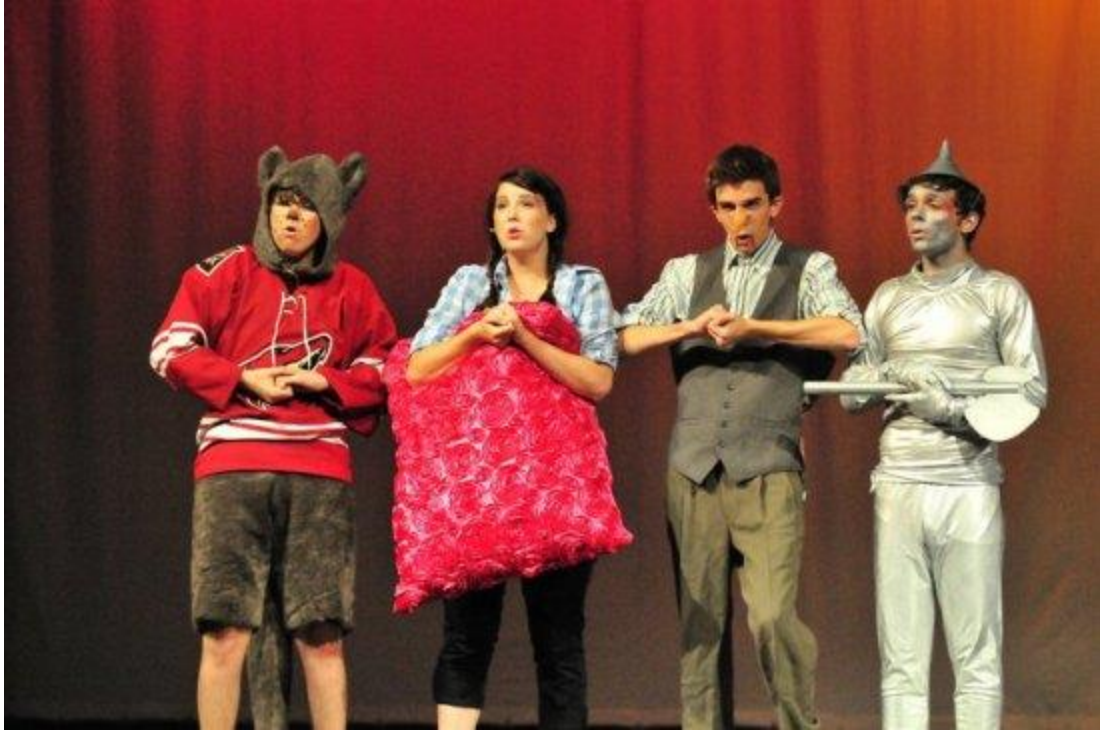
A ways down the road the travelers enter a scary forest. They come upon a family of Coyotes who have an angry adult child. Wiley/Richard, is having a hard time flying the coop. Mom and Pop Coyote present a brochure of Shambala and explain that those on the road to Shambala will take Wiley in, and he can travel to Shambala with them since he is scared to go on his own. You can tell those on the road to Shambala by the "flowers in their eyes."



Of course Sam and Tin have the flowers that were painted on at the Thespian carnival. With encouragement from Mom and dad Wiley begs to go with them as he sings, "The Road to Shambala." Mom and dad wave goodbye in relief as the four travelers head down the road, Shambala...6 kilometers, now leaving The Scary Forest.

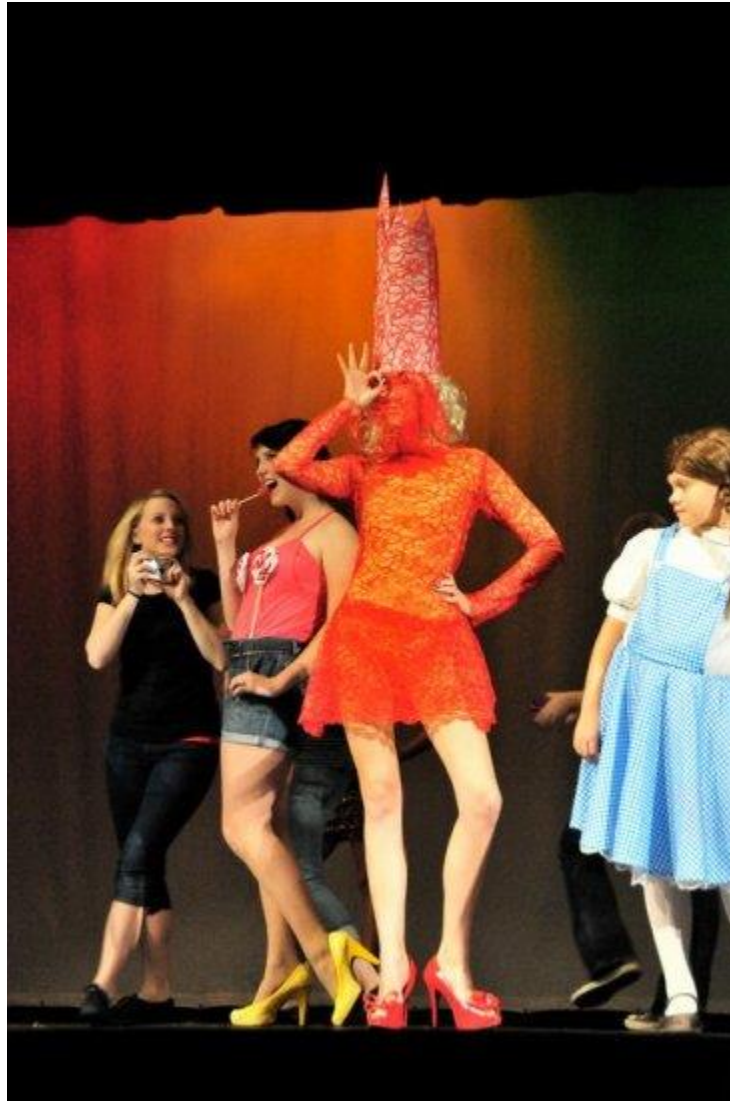


Unfortunately, obstacles slow their journey. Just as the gates of Shambala are revealed in the distance the tired travelers come upon a field of Satin and Lace Pillows where Sam and Wiley collapse in exhaustion leaving Pinocchio and Tin to cry for help. The Fairy Godmother/Lydia sends a Three Dog Night of cold to wake the travelers which is carried out tongue in cheek as Techies run past hurling ping pong balls to represent hail. The travelers carry on to the gates of Shambala singing "The Road to Shambala" reprise.



At the gates of the great city the travelers are denied entry until they “guilt” the doorman, Jeremiah/Jeremy, now dressed like the Emerald City doorman, by crying, then presenting the Crimson Converse given to them by Lola of Thespia. But before Jeremiah can take the travelers to see Jeremiah they must get “dressed up” for the Celebrity Ball. When the gates of Shambala fly, black and white celebrity icons are revealed. Elvis, Marilyn, Judy Garland as Dorothy etc. even the make-up makes these icons appear to be old photographs. A chorus of Prom Bedecked individuals also enter during the celebrity ball and dress the travelers in fine/fun formal attire, ending the song with Rainbow Robed Shambalans entering on each “Celebrate dance to

the music.”



A circle is then formed as the Shambalans robe the travelers for meditation. Leo the Shambalan Nerd leads the guided imagery when the Malevolent Mistress sneaks in and vandalizes their circle with spray paint reading “Concede the Crimson Converse” which frightens the Shambalans who then run to seek Jeremiah’s council. Jeremiah sends everyone away, back to their Tofu leaving the travelers at his gate to cry again. Witnessing more tears Jeremiah, now dressed as a yoga instructor, concedes and lets the travelers into the great halls of Shambala to see the Great and Powerful Bullfrog.



In the halls of Shambala the Great and powerful Bullfrog speaks but cannot be understood, so Leo, the Shambalan Nerd, translates; then becomes the travelers' guide when Jeremiah sends them on a quest to obtain the make-up from the Malevolent Mistress. But before they leave on this quest Leo is warned by his mother that the Malevolent Mistress and her cohorts are maniacal and there could be drinking and smoking. His mama tells him not to go.



Leo goes anyway wanting to help his new friends, especially Sam as he is smitten with her. In the "Really Scary Forest" the travelers are confronted by Party Animals that take Sam away and tangle Pinocchio, use Tin for a keg,

and scare Leo and Wiley. The male travelers attack Party Animals, steal their T-shirts and head into the Malevolent Mistresses abode to rescue Sam. There is a raging kegger party going on. They are immediately asked if they would like something to drink, Leo asks for tea and Tin a Perrier. Party Animals shrug the pansy request off and ask them if they want whiskey for their water and sugar for their tea, as smoke begins to fill the room. Leo begins to freak out realizing his mama was right and the four boys sing "Mama told me not to come" as a boy band would, Leo in the middle the others as back-up singers. Party animals rage around them as Techies go crazy with a fog machine creating a smoky effect. After the Party Animals collapse, the boy travelers bust in on the Malevolent Mistress who is keeping Sam. The Malevolent Mistress attacks Pinocchio, makes him dance with her and as she begins to kiss him, Sam smears make-up remover on her face and she melts away in a Techie created special effect leaving the Party Animals happy to see that The Malevolent Mistress is dead. They give her make-up kit to Sam.



The travelers return to Shambala where Jeremiah turns out to be a fraud, a bad bullfrog, a humbug. But he finds ways of granting their wishes by elucidating that peace and joy come from within, by accepting oneself and others for who they are warts and all. Black, white, red, yellow, gay, straight, handicapped, overweight, bad housekeeping. Don't judge, be happy, love is love is love! AND the whole world looks upon the sight, a beautiful sight and

he begins "Black and White" as children of all shapes, colors and ethnicity enter to sing and dance with the travelers and the Rainbow Robed Shambalans. The scene then goes backwards until we're back at Sam's dorm where all main characters have their resolution. Leaving a finale of Joy to the World and The Road to Shambala as a giant postcard is revealed expressing "Hello from Spain! Wish you could be here!"

