

Open minds, open borders

Erasmus + 2018

Devised script

Characters:

Violet - Rosie

Samira - Abbie

Father - Luke G.

Mother - Johanna

Loved ones - Luke A., Peter, Federica, Julia, Arsine, Shabina

Chuck - Axel

Trent - Djurre

People at the bar - Jakub, Maria, Emmi, Maja, Alicia

Police Officer - Felix

Migrant at the airport - Peter

People at airport – Eemeli, Maria, Jakub, Julia

Passport checker - Maja

Scene 1:

Violet: at home, saying goodbye to mother,

Samira: walking with group

Transition: freeze; turning into passengers at airport

Samira (Abbie) enters with a torn rucksack, running. Stage right. A group of people joins her, supports her, wants to leave as well (Luke, Federica, Arsine, Peter, Julia, Shabina). They all walk fast/run on the spot, facing forwards. They continue running as Violet (Rose) enters and puts a new-looking backpack on. Her mother (Johanna) enters and gives her a scarf as a gift that should remind her of home. Her father (Luke) steps in, interrupting, accusing his own daughter to be leaving Over Here for no good reason, although the audience doesn't know the reason yet. The father totally disagrees on the mother's gift as he thinks Violet isn't worthy of wearing a scarf that symbolizes Over Here. The father gets angry and raises his fist as if to hit Violet. The scene freezes, the walking group also freezes.

Scene 2:

at the airport

Violet reading a letter out loud

freeze when the letter is read

Transition: after letter is read, drop freeze, walk for some more time

Props:

Luke A. - Table

Federica - Table

Arsine - Chair

Johanna - Chair

Axel - Chair

Djurre – Chair

The walkers all turn into airport passengers. They all walk about hurriedly. Violet is among them. New passengers with coats and suitcases enter (Eemeli, Peter, Maria, Jakob, Julia). The walkers exit the scene if they have to wear a coat, to then re-enter. Violet carries a letter in her pocket. Violet stops, center stage, she reads the letter out loud (fragments taken from the poem "The émigré"). It is now understood that she is moving Over There because she wishes to join the Love of her life.

As she finishes reading the poem the props for the following scene are brought in: Federica and Luke bring in two tables, Arsine, Johanna, Axel, Djurre bring a chair each in, 3 in total. They set up the stage for the café scene. The tables and chairs are on the right hand side of the stage.

Scene 3:

back at home → cafe/ restaurant

discrimination against glasses

Djurre and Axel 'steal' a chair and the tray

Emmie and Maria turn the tables

Jakub, Maria and Emmie carry chairs off stage

The scene is set at a café Over Here (at home). We see Vioets's parents discussing at a table, two friends (Alicia and Maja) standing at the bar and chatting and another couple of friends (Emmi and Jakob) talking with the bartender (Maria). Two men, Chuck and Trent, enter and start insulting every customer who is wearing glasses. They start verbally attacking another man until they actually push him off his chair and start doing the same with Violet's parents. One of the customers (Emmi) shouts: „Police!“ to get the two men to run away. Chuck runs off, stealing a chair while Trent grabs the tray of drinks and flees. The two tables are positioned on the left (Maria and Emmie), as if they were a passport booth and the three remaining chairs are brought out (Maria, Emmie and Jakob). An officer (Felix) with a weapon (an umbrella) stands behind them, with a threatening look.

Scene 4:

passport scene

other people in line: Emmele and Julia

Transition: group runs on stage and forms border (in a line)

as soon as Felix is 'hidden', he lifts up the tables and leaves

Three people are stading in line, waiting to have their passport checked to cross the border.

The first person (Julia) exits without any problems, Violet, though, gets stopped. She is asked why she wants to flee to Over There. The police officer doesn't trust her because she comes from Overe Here and asks her to step aside. A third person is allowed to go through without any problems. The police officers then threatens Violet to take her scarf away, as if it was some sort of hidden weapon or threat. Only when the police officer realizes that the scarf is just a piece of cloth, he lets her go through.

One by one the whole cast enters running, forming a border line.

Scene 5:

The border

order of runners: Johanna, Luke A., Emmi

after the three runners the group of 'loved ones' and Samira run in front of the border

the rest leaves

Refugees walking, one by one collapsing

order of collapsing: Peter, Federica, Julia, Arsina

Samira reads part of the poem as a letter (?)

Transition to airport

Everyone in the line is ready to flee, ready to run away. Only three people (Johanna, Luke A.

Emmi) attempt to escape but they get pulled back into position. The two tables behind the line are pulled back up into a straight position (Felix, who then exits). Everyone, except Samira's peers, slowly backs up and exits. Samira's group then starts walking on the spot, facing fowards. They have escaped, they are trying to reach Over There. Slowly, one at the time, a few members of the group collapse. They cannot make it, they cannot walk anymore.

They exit (in order: Peter, Federica, Julia and Arsina).

Scene 6:

airport in arriving country, immigrant shouting about scarf

Transition to next scene; everyone comes in → walking in space as citizens in big city

Luke and Julia take the tables off stage

The remaining walkers exit, except for Violet. Two other migrants enter (Peter, Eemeli, Maria, Jakob and Julia). An officer is checking passports (Maja) and lets a few people go through. One of the migrants (Peter) turns around, sees that Violet is wearing an Over Here scarf and gets offended. He shouts at Violet asking why is she fleeing, yet still wearing a scarf that reminds her of Over There. The officers kindly asks the man to hurry up as he is holding up the queue. Violet is then asked to show her passport. We don't see what happens next as the scene freezes when she is handing her passport over.

Scene 7:

Violet and Samira meet each other in new city

Cue for freeze: "Samira!"

The whole cast enters hurriedly, as city dwellers: everyone is busy, lost in her/his own world. Samira and Violet are looking for each other. Finally Violet sees Samira and shout her name. Everyone stops and they run into a hug.

The end.