LENNY AND RAN SIDE 1

LENNY: a 15-year-old boy, very intelligent; son of a psychiatrist mother and a dentist father; has been in psychoanalysis for 3 years, very musical, very sensitive; in much flux and emotional pain a great deal of the time. Has attempted suicide recently. Great sense of humor.

RAN: a 15-year-old boy, dear friend of LENNY’s, they make music together, and perform where they can. Intellectually curious, warm and tender-hearted, insecure in all the ways of a 15-year-old, yet wise beyond his years.

Note: both of these roles will involve staged combat, and discussion of suicide

RAN: Why do your parents take sleeping pills?

LENNY: ‘Cause they can’t sleep, asshole!

RAN: Why not?

LENNY: I don’t know, older people can’t sleep, they can never sleep. It’s quite common.

RAN: Maybe it’s because they’re going to die soon.

LENNY: Thanks, bro, for that hopeful image that my Mom’s going to die soon! That’s real exciting!

RAN: Well, there’s always your Dad!

LENNY: He takes Ambien also.

RAN: Well, there’s always your brother.

LENNY: He takes some other shit.

RAN: Well, as long as it’s not Ambience. I just meant since they’re going to be dead for eternity or like for a really long time they probably don’t want to just go all unconscious until they have no choice. That’s why they can’t sleep.

LENNY: Whatever.

*(pause)*

RAN: Lenny.

LENNY: Yeah.

RAN: Are you alright?

LENNY: Yeah.

RAN: Are you?

LENNY: No. Yeah.