

Blocking Assignments

ACT TWO SCENE FOUR AND SUB SCENES 4 A AND 4 B

GENERAL:

This the first of several composite sets on the main stage. The school office segment takes place on the far left stage near ramp B. Meeting up with Louise who enters from E takes place next at centre stage C. Bev joins them all on stage right as she enters from ramp D. The Afghanistan trumpeter is on Readers Stage left along with Cindy, Murray, and Gary. The Legion member is on Readers Stage right.

ACTION:

The image on the screen is one of Remembrance as stage left is lit by a spot light. The scene opens with Alex seated at his desk. Brian arrives from Entrance E. The mood is somewhat calmer now as some time has passed following the soccer game that was lost. The dialogue moves quickly and Alex is responsive to Brian's situation regarding his dad. When Alex gets up from his desk and moves over to be with Brian he sits on the edge of the desk so that the two are closer together and nothing comes between them. Alex makes his moving speech regarding his sister Cindy but then catches himself before becoming too emotional about the past. Alex reaches out to Brian with his invitation and Brian accepts. Alex returns to his desk to find a poppy for Brian, picks up his jacket and the two walk toward area C and the middle of the stage.

Louise takes her cue when the two cross the stage and end up at area C. The sequence of movements runs in a diagonal from the far left backstage corner to the far right front stage corner. When the four reach the front stage right they are lined up in a sequence with Bev on one end and Louise on the other and closest to center stage. Alex stands beside Louise and Brian stands between Alex and Bev. While the four of them are observing the Act of Remembrance they are all in a line facing the audience in a straight line.

At this point the Legion member enters the Readers Stage on the right. On the Readers Stage left, the three military players assemble and come to attention. That trumpet player enters the Readers Stage left and plays the last post. Following the last post may remain at attention until Reveille is sounded. The Legion member next reads or recites the Act of Remembrance. During all of the ceremony the four players gathered at the front of the stage remain at attention.

The Act of Remembrance is given and Bev, Louise, Brian and Alex respond in unison, "We will remember them. At this point, the characters on both the left and right Readers Stages exit by the rear. The image on the screen goes to black. The main characters softly speak their lines and then Alex and turns to Louise and says "have you anyone serving in the military that you would like to remember?"

When Louise's news hits home, every one is shocked and looks toward Alex to offer him their unspoken consolation. Bev goes directly in front of everyone and takes Louise by the arm and leads her down ramp A. Alex takes a few steps back in shock. Brian moves over to the centre stage front to watch Bev and Louise as they walk together. Alex speaks from behind Brian, who is confused and torn between supporting Alex and not wanting to interfere, telling him that he should go and not stay.

Brian then starts down ramp A. He pauses again at the bottom of the ramp to look back at Alex who says, "Glad to have you back on the team again." Then he dashes off to try and catch Bev and Louise.

Alex moves to centre stage C. The lights go black giving Alex enough time to exit the stage at E taking with him the seasonal tree. The stage crew quickly replaces it with the new winter tree which is barren and painted white. A spot light focused on the tree comes on again for a very brief moment and then the lights go to black.

PROPS LIST:

2 chairs for the office area.

A desk with a drawer.

A poppy in the drawer plus an additional 9 for the players to all wear.

Alex has a coat with a poppy on it.

Trumpet.

We will also need sufficient glow in the dark cam sticks or tape to mark out entrances and exit ramps in the dark.

The seasonal tree for Fall

The seasonal tree for Winter.

STAGE DIRECTOR NOTES:

The action moves in a straight diagonal line from the left rear corner of the stage to the front right corner of the stage.

COSTUMING:

The military players are all in Tan Cadpats. The Legion member is dressed in the appropriate blue blazer with medals and wearing the distinctive Legion tie. Louise is dressed in her waitress costume and wearing a poppy. Bev is also still in her salon apron with a poppy.

IMAGE SCREEN OPERATOR:

After the blackout and before the lights come up the image of a Remembrance theme is projected on the screen. It remains there until after the Act of Remembrance is given but before the four main characters give their own remembrances. Then the screen goes black. The lighting follows the action as it moves across the stage from left to right.

MAKEUP:

There are no special requirements for each of the players. Each of the players in the scene will be responsible for doing their own makeup under the direction of the Makeup Artist. No special attention is required for this scene.

LIGHTING:

The image on the screen appears first. Only the left rear corner of the stage is lit at the opening of the scene. That is followed by the centre stage area C, and finally the front stage area to the right. Both of the Readers Stages are lit when there are readers on stage. At the end of the scene the lighting changes to a spotlight on Alex followed by a brief blackout and then a brief lighting of the new seasonal tree.