

#2 - ONE SMALL GIRL

STORYTELLERS (EXCEPT LITTLE TI MOUNE)
ONE SMALL GIRL
IN A TREE
TORN FROM HER MOTHER
CRYING IN FRIGHT
ONE SMALL GIRL
TOSSED BY SEA
AND LEFT TO FACE
THE STORMY NIGHT
ONE SMALL GIRL
HOLDING TIGHT.

(THE STORM ceases and morning arrives. The
STORYTELLERS who will play MAMA EURASIA and
TONTON JULIAN come down the road. They are not
yet in character.)

STORYTELLERS
At last, the storm subsided.┘
And the morning sun glowed.
And two old peasants
Came cautiously down the road.┘

(Reminded by the OTHER STORYTELLERS that THEY
are not supposed to be playing older people,
MAMA and TONTON assume more elderly postures.)

TONTON (To Mama)
Mama Euralie.

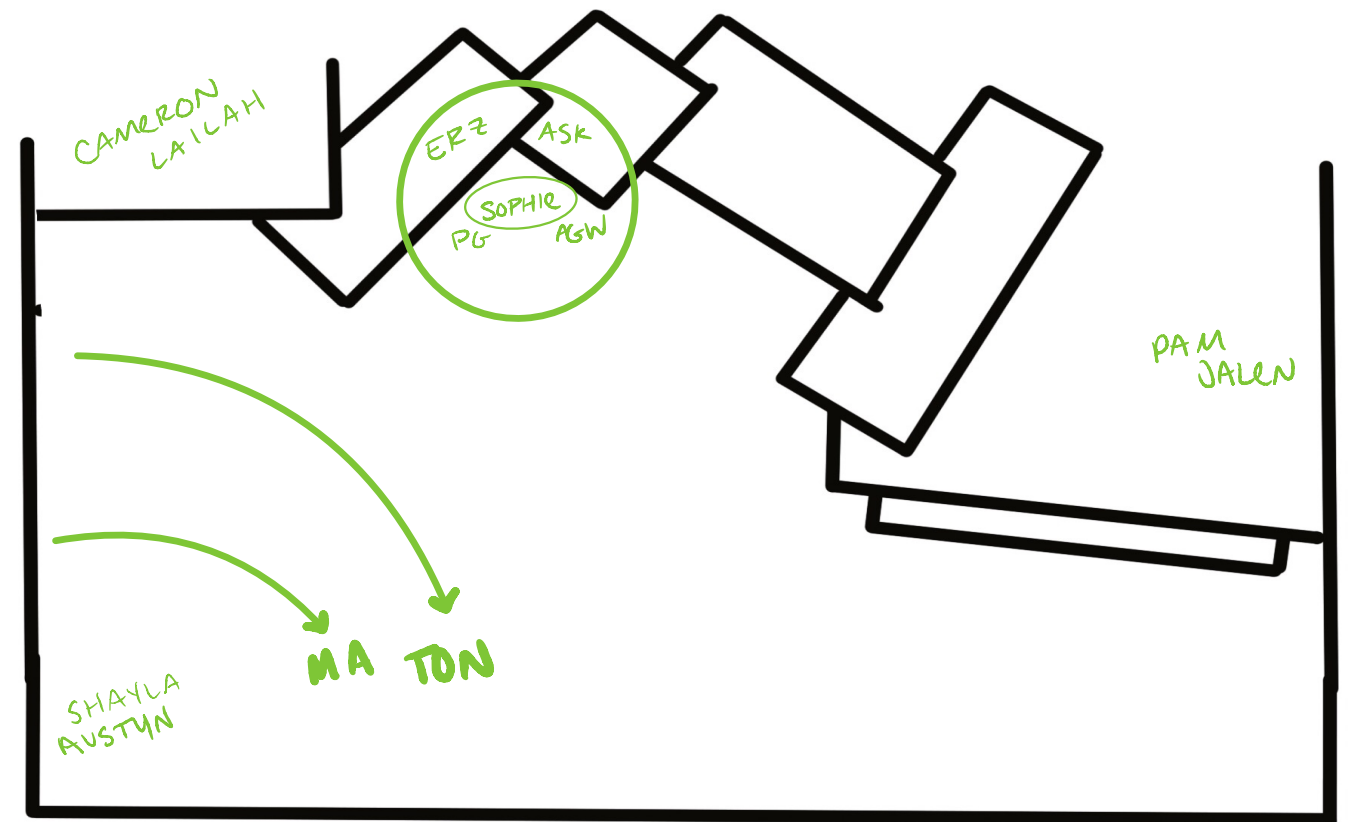
MAMA (To Tonton)
Tonton Julian

MAMA
Asaka is smiling again, Julian.

TONTON
This morning, she smiles. Last night she tried to blow our
heads off.

MAMA
Ah Julian, just listen to those birds.

STORYTELLERS (WOMEN)
COO COO COO COO┘
COO COO COO COO



[AUSTYN + SHAYLA ENT DSL
PAM + JALEN ENT SL PLAT DOOR
CAM + LAI ENT USR PLAT DOOR

[MAMA ENT DSR
TONTON ENT USR > X DR

TON start X SL

(BIRDS sing as MAMA and TONTON pass by the tree. BIRDS stop, as LITTLE TI MOUNE cries out.)

LITTLE TI MOUNE

Waah!

(MAMA and TONTON stop and look around.)

TONTON

What kind of bird is that?

MAMA

Look! There!

MAMA

↓ ONE SMALL FACE
TWO SMALL KNEES

TONTON

WHY ARE YOU UP THERE?

MAMA

WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

(A silence, in which LITTLE TI MOUNE doesn't respond.)

MAMA

THE GIRL CAN'T SPEAK

TONTON (Gestures upward toward the gods)
AND THEY'RE TO BLAME

↓ AGWE PROBABLY MEANT TO KILL HER.

MAMA

Then she'd be dead.

TONTON

IT'S POSSIBLE HE FORGOT.

MAMA

The gods don't forget.

TONTON

↓ THEN THEY HAD SOME REASON TO SPARE HER LIFE

MA + TON X USC to tree

[TON X DR > X DC
MA follow

MA + TON X back USC to tree

BOTH
IT'S BEST THAT WE DON'T KNOW WHAT

ONE SMALL GIRL...

(THEY're tempted for a second)
BETTER NOT. ↓

(THEY begin to move away, but ERZULIE makes a
gesture, and THEY'RE drawn back.)

TONTON
But we're too old for children. (to each other)
(ERZULIE gestures again.)

MAMA
We have no room, and no food... (to tree)
(ERZULIE gestures again, and THEY turn back.)

ERZULIE
And not knowing quite why, they ↓ followed their hearts back
to the tree, gently lifted the terrified child down...
(LITTLE TI MOUNE screams very loudly.)

LITTLE TI MOUNE
NO!

ERZULIE
And discovered she could speak after all.
(LITTLE TI MOUNE begins to play.)

STORYTELLERS (MEN)
↓ ONE SMALL GIRL

STORYTELLERS (WOMEN)
IN THE WAY

MAMA
↓ CONSTANTLY HUNGRY

TONTON
LEARNING TOO QUICK

STORYTELLERS (MEN, WOMEN)
↓ ONE SMALL GIRL
↓ HARD AT PLAY

MA+TON start X SL
stop as ERZ does hand motion

[MA+TON X back USC
SOPHIA is lifted down
GODS + COO COOS exit USR PLAT DOOR

SOPHIA run around MA+TON UC

SOPH X SL PLAT, snack from Pam

SOPH X DR
cart+wheel

trick DR w/ SHAY + AUSTYN

1 SHE MAKES ME SMILE

TONTON

MAMA

SHE SCARES ME SICK!

(MAMA and TONTON begin to run after the mischievous LITTLE TI MOUNE.)

ERZULIE

AND THEY SCOLDED AND TEASED AND HELD HER
AND MENDED THE CLOTHES SHE TORE

STORYTELLERS (MEN, WOMEN)

AND THE HUT WAS CROWDED
AND FOOD WAS SCARCE

AND SOMEHOW, THEIR LIVES HELD MORE

STORYTELLERS (MEN, WOMEN)

ONE SMALL GIRL
TO LIVE FOR.

ERZULIE

They named her Desiree Dieu Donne, lor God-Given Desire. But in their affection, they called her simply Ti Moune.

LITTLE TI MOUNE

What does Ti Moune mean, Mama?

MAMA

It means little orphan. You're our sweet little orphan. We found you, and now your life is forever in our care.

LITTLE TI MOUNE

Why?

TONTON

Because the gods willed it.

LITTLE TI MOUNE

Why?

MAMA

Perhaps they saved you for something special.

LITTLE TI MOUNE

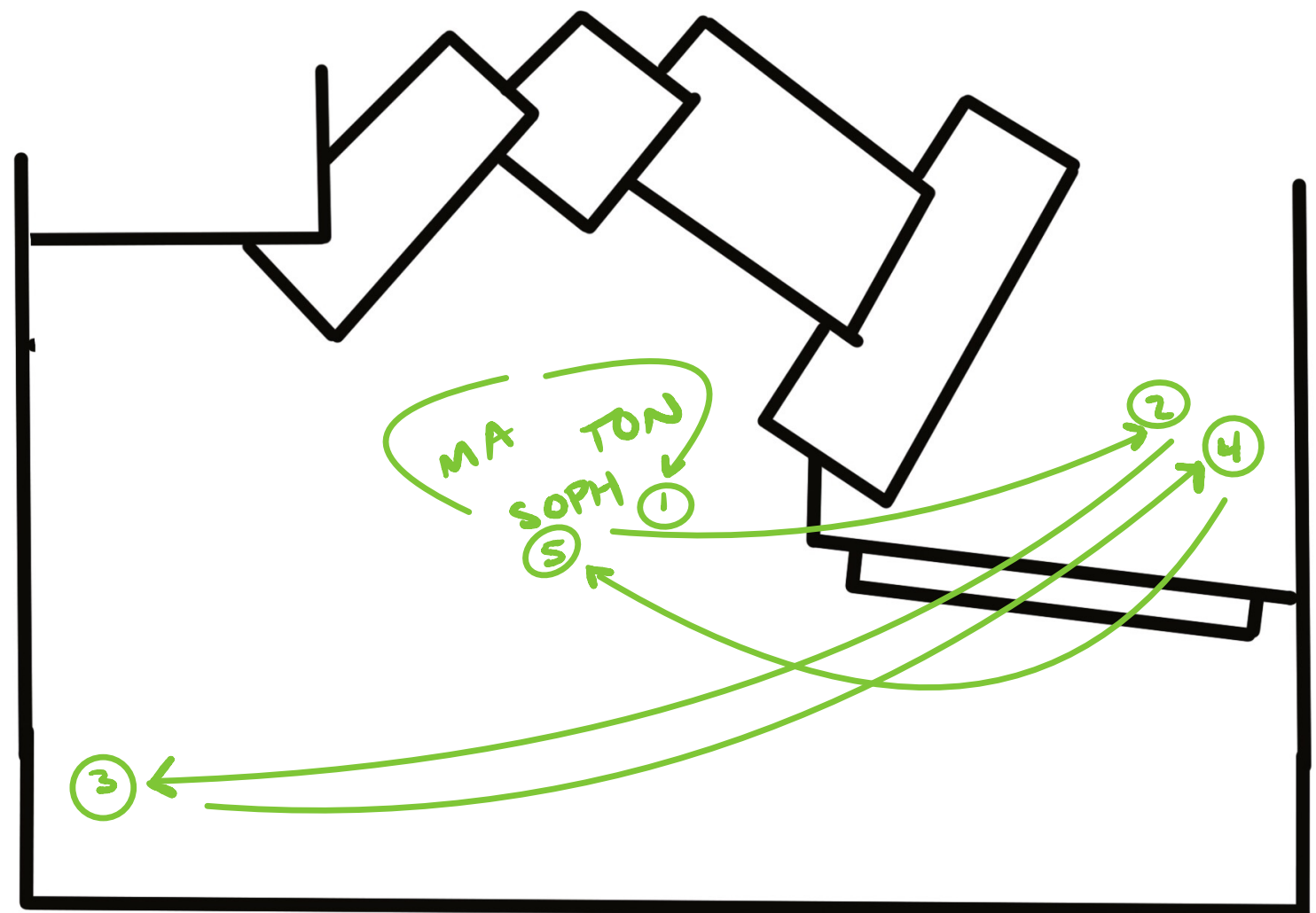
What is it?

MA X DR to scold
SHAYLA + AUSTYN X USC

SOPH X SL PLAT
change dress (from Pam)
MA+TON X back UC

SOPX x 2 to skip around

SOPH X C to MA + TON



MAMA
Ti Moune, if we knew why the gods did the things they do,
we would be gods ourselves!

LITTLE TI MOUNE
Someday I'm going to ask them, Mama!

MAMA
Foolish girl! Run and hide!
(ALL begin to play hide and seek with LITTLE TI MOUNE.)

STORYTELLERS (MEN, WOMEN)
SWEET AS A EUCALYPTUS
AND TERRIBLE AS A TEMPEST
BANGING A DRUM
AND HUMMING A TUNE...

STORYTELLERS (MEN, WOMEN)
TI MOUNE
FALLING
AND RUNNING
AND CALLING
AND GROWING
AND GROWING
AND GROWING
AND GROWING UP TOO SOON...

(LITTLE TI MOUNE vanishes and in HER place
stands a beautiful, full-grown version - TI MOUNE as a young woman.)

TONTON
ONE SMALL GIRL

MAMA
NOT SO SMALL

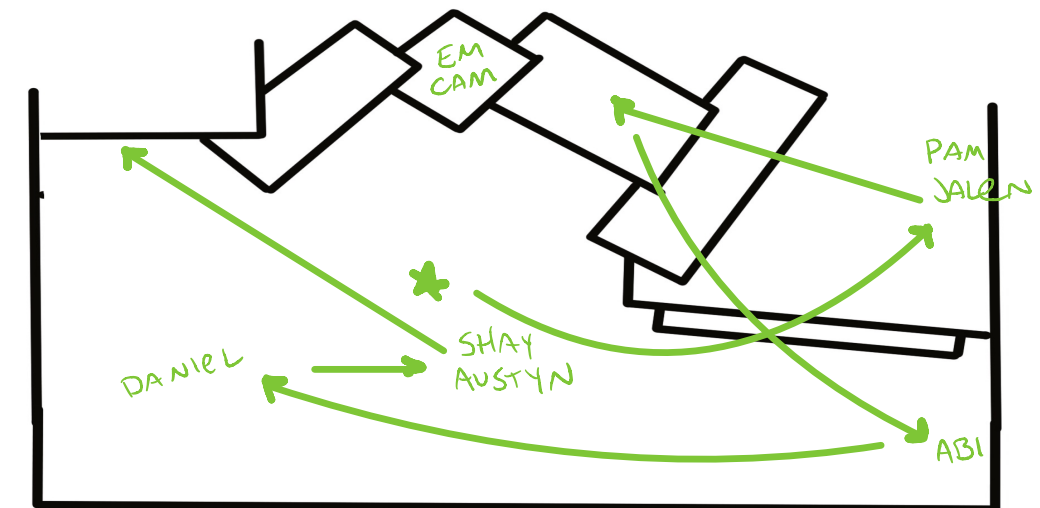
TONTON
LOST IN THOSE DAYDREAMS

MAMA
DAY AFTER DAY

STORYTELLERS
OOH WAY OOH

TONTON
CALL HER NAME

SOPH X SL PLAT SCARED BY PAM + JALEN
UP PLAT SCARED BY CAMERON + EMMA
DL SCARED BY ABI
DR SCARED BY DANIEL
C SCARED BY SHAY + AUSTYN
↳ USE DOOR EXIT
MA + TON X SL PLAT



TI MOUNE ENT USE DOOR
X DL
ALL BACK TO SMALL TI PLAY SPOTS
+ TAG

TI run around MA + TON

TI X SL plat

MAMA
NO DON'T CALL

STORYTELLERS
OOH WAY OOH

BOTH
HER EARS DON'T HEAR
SHE'S FAR AWAY

TONTON
AND I KNOW THAT SHE'S GETTING OLDER

MAMA
I KNOW THAT IT'S MEANT TO BE

MAMA
AND MY ARMS CAN'T HOLD HER
AND KEEP HER SMALL
BUT ALL THAT MY HEART CAN SEE
IS...

STORYTELLERS
AAAHH...

MAMA, TONTON

MEN
ONE SMALL GIRL

WOMEN
ONE SMALL GIRL

ONE SMALL GIRL

ONE SMALL GIRL
ONE SMALL GIRL

ONE SMALL GIRL
ONE SMALL GIRL

ONE SMALL GIRL

MAMA, TONTON
IN A TREE.

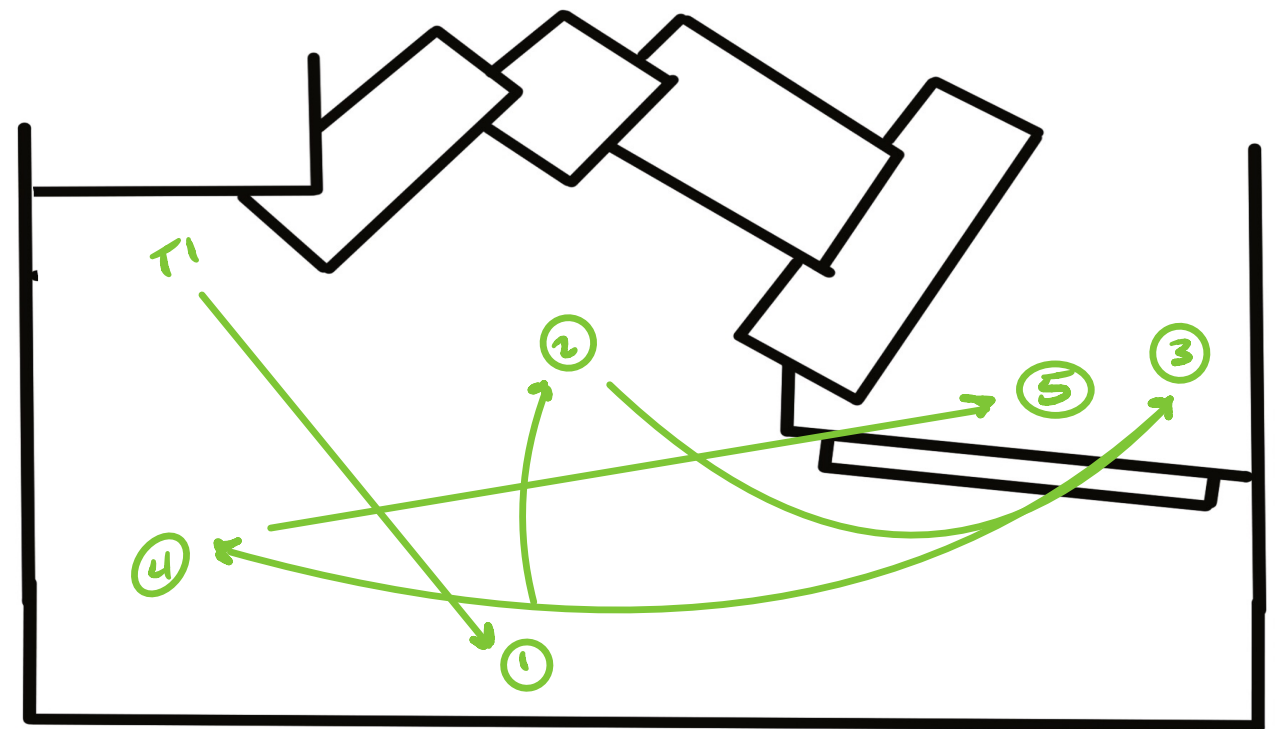
(Behind TI MOUNE, for just a moment, we see an image of ASAKA, holding LITTLE TI MOUNE in HER arms. MAMA, TONTON, TI MOUNE and THE STORYTELLERS now begin to work in the field.)

ALL
OOH, OOH WAY OOH
OOH, OOH WAY OOH...

⌞ WAITING FOR LIFE

(Suddenly, Daniel BEAUXHOMME drives by, and TI MOUNE stops to stare.)

TI x OSR, trick



MA, TON end SL plat

TI x UC to tree after tag

#3 - WAITING FOR LIFE

TI MOUNE

A STRANGER IN WHITE
IN A CAR
GOING SOMEWHERE
GOING FAR...

↓ HOW IT MUST FEEL
TO GO RACING WHEREVER YOU PLEASE
↓ FLYING AS FREE AS A BIRD
WITH HIS TAIL IN THE BREEZE
EVEN THE FISH IN THE SEA
MUST BE LONGING TO FLY
CATCHING A GLIMPSE ↓
OF A STRANGER IN WHITE RACING BY

OH, ↓ GODS
OH, GODS
ARE YOU THERE?
WHAT CAN I DO
TO GET YOU TO LOOK DOWN AND GIVE IN?
OH, GODS
OH, GODS
HEAR MY PRAYER
I'M HERE IN THE FIELD
WITH MY FEET ON THE GROUND
AND MY FATE IN THE AIR

WAITING FOR LIFE TO BEGIN

STORYTELLERS

↓ OO LA, OO LA
OO LA, OO LA
OO LA, OO LA
OO LA, OO LA

TI MOUNE

↓ MAMA'S CONTENTED
AND TONTON ACCEPTS WHAT HE GETS

HAPPY FOR TEA IN THEIR CUPS
AND NO HOLES IN THEIR NETS

STORYTELLERS

OO LA, OO LA
OO LA, OO LA

OO LA, OO LA
OO, LA OOO

(IN MUSIC)

DAN ENT DSL w/ car
meander

EXT UR DOOR
TI getting down from tree, X SL

TI X SR following DAN'S path
break from path, "flying" DC

TI X back UR

TI face audience

DANCERS ENT DSR + SR DOOR

TI dance a little

SHAY + AUSTY, PAM + JALEN
join dance when group reaches them

TI X SL plat to MA + TON
teacups

TI MOUNE
 ↓ HAPPY TO HAVE WHAT THEY HAVE
 AND TO STAY WHERE THEY ARE

THEY NEVER EVEN LOOK UP
 AT THE SOUND OF A CAR!

STORYTELLERS

OO LA, OO LA
 OO LA, OO LA

OO LA, OO LA
 OOH, LAAAA...

(Daniel enters, "driving" and TI MOUNE sees HIM.)

TI MOUNE

A STRANGER!
 RACING DOWN THE BEACH
 RACING TO PLACES
 I WAS MEANT TO REACH ↓
 MY STRANGER!
 ONE DAY YOU'LL ARRIVE
 ↓ YOUR CAR WILL STOP
 AND IN I'LL HOP
 AND OFF WE'LL ↓ DRIVE
 WE'LL DRIVE!

OH, GODS
 OH, GODS
 PLEASE, BE THERE
 DON'T YOU REMEMBER
 YOUR LITTLE TI MOUNE FROM THE TREE
 WAKE UP!
 LOOK DOWN!
 HEAR MY PRAYER
 DON'T SINGLE ME OUT ↓
 AND THEN FORGET ME!

TI MOUNE

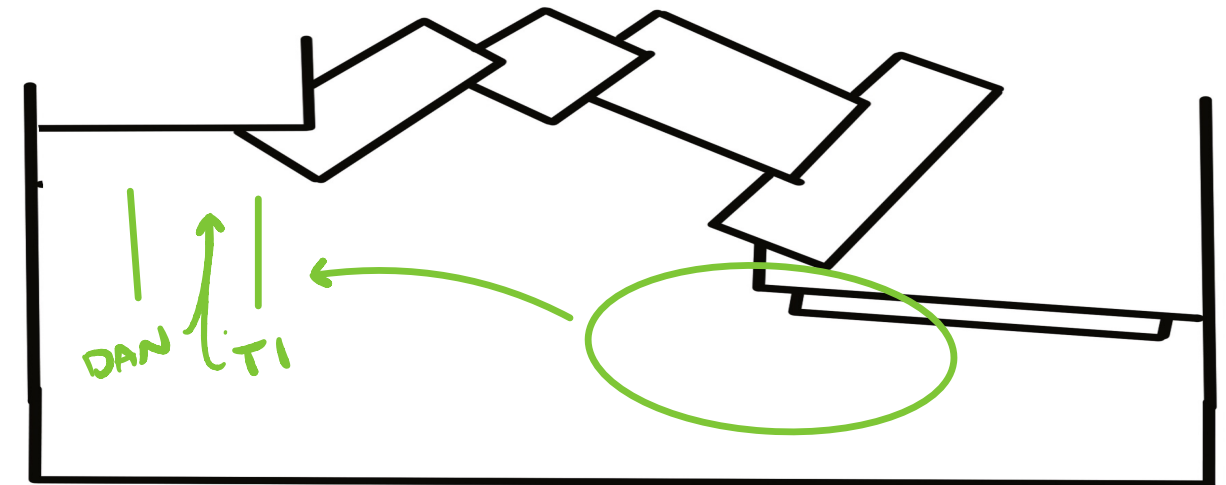
OH GODS, OH GODS
 ↓ LET ME FLY
 SEND ME TO PLACES
 WHERE NO ONE BEFORE ME
 HAS BEEN

STORYTELLERS

OH, OH, OH

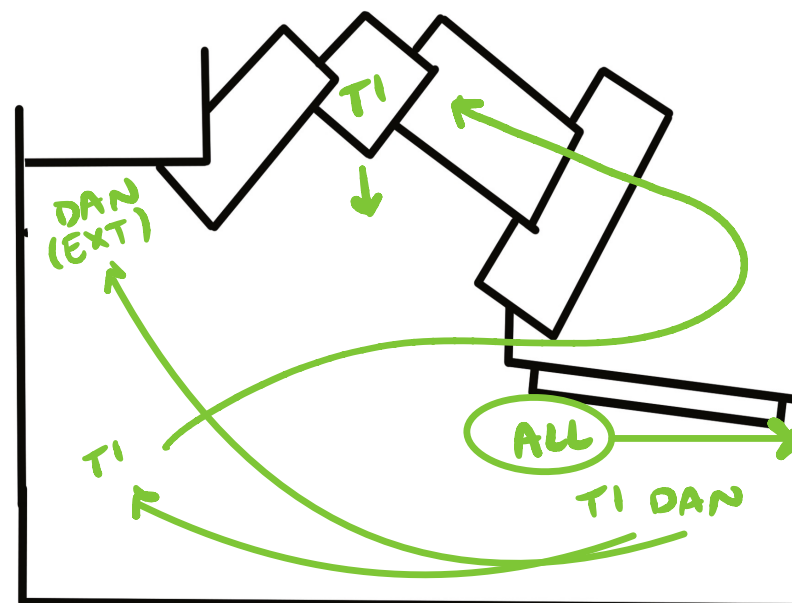
OO LA, OO LA
 OO LAAA

TI x DSR, ALL create lines SR



DAN run thru lines, TI follow
 x DL

DAN mimic car
 DAN + TI x SR
 DAN spin TI + EXT USR DOOR
 ALL EXT SL



TI sit on plat (c)

JAVY + AUSTYN
 lift TI x DC
 place TI
 down + kneel

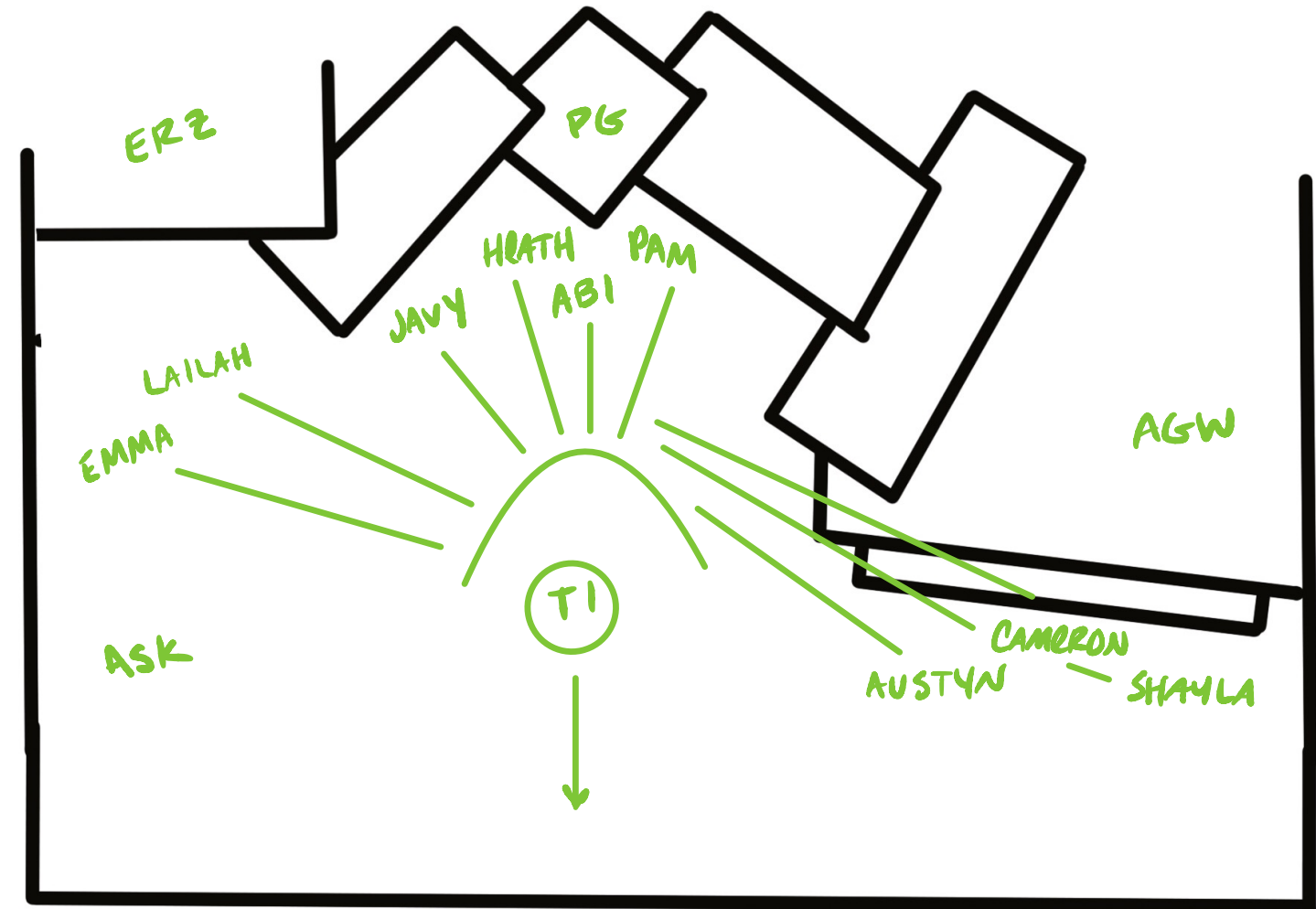
TI MOUNE
 YOU SPARED MY LIFE
 SHOW ME WHY
 YOU GET ME TO RISE
 LIKE A FISH TO THE BAIT
 THEN, TELL ME TO WAIT
 WELL, I'M WAITING...

STORYTELLERS
 OH OH OH

WAITING

TI MOUNE	WOMEN	MEN
WAITING FOR LIFE TO BEGIN	ONE SMALL GIRL	ONE SMALL GIRL
WAITING FOR LIFE TO BEGIN	ONE SMALL GIRL	ONE SMALL GIRL

ENSEMBLE RE-ENTERS closest
 staggered to clump / final pose
 GODs re-enter



#4 - AND THE GODS HEARD HER PRAYER

(TI MOUNE lies down to rest. Four of the STORYTELLERS transform themselves into GODS. The other STORYTELLERS begin to exit.)

STORYTELLERS (AS THEY EXIT)

↓ OO LA, OO LA, OO LA, OO LA
OO LA, OO LA, OO LA, OO LA

STORYTELLER (ANDREA)

And the gods heard her prayer.

(THE GODS burst into raucous laughter, looking down at the sleeping TI MOUNE.)

ASAKA

The peasant girl wants a grand home to carry her away!

(GODS laugh again.)

ASAKA

I SHOULD...
FIND A TREE ALL COVERED WITH MANGOS
JUICY MANGOS, FAT AND WELL-FED
PICK A MANGO

AGWE

A JUICY MANGO

ERZULIE

A LOVELY MANGO

PAPA GE

A POISON MANGO

ASAKA

DROP THE MANGO...

(GODS all whistle, as the imagined mango "falls", striking TI MOUNE, who stirs in HER sleep.)

ALL

BOOM!

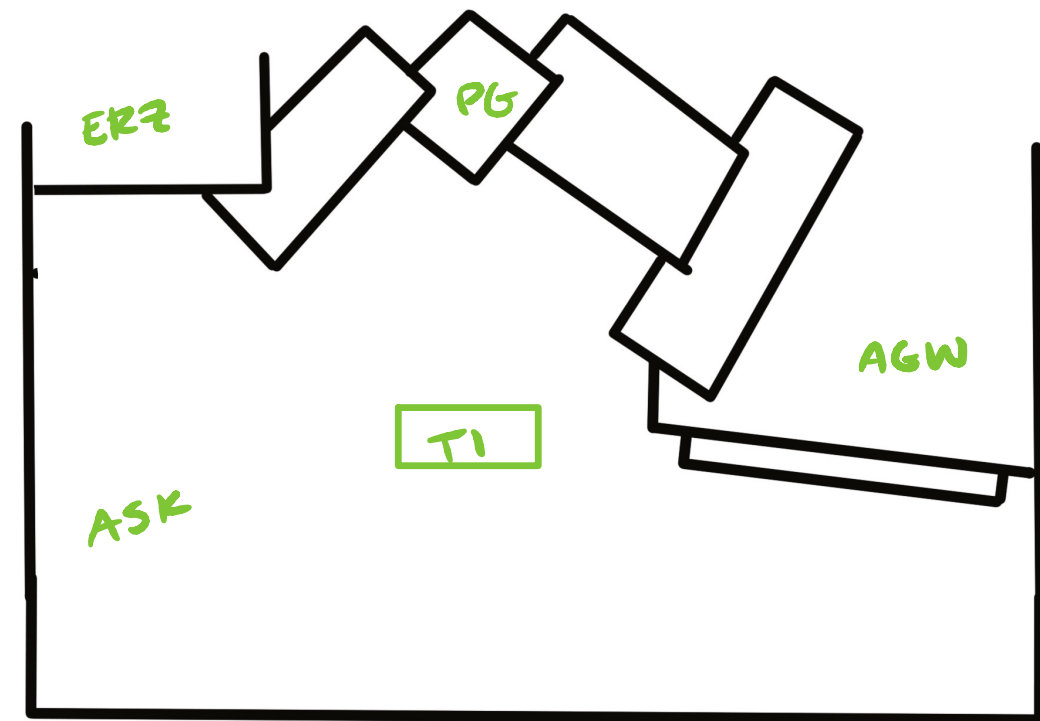
ASAKA

AND KNOCK SOME SENSE IN HER HEAD!

ENSEMBLE EXIT closest

SHAY + LAI get cot from SL plat → C
CAMERON stop SL for line

TI C to sleep



ALL GODS
↓ KNOCK SOME SENSE IN HER HEAD!

AGWE
SPLASH HER WITH A WAVE!

PAPA GE
SCARE HER HALF TO DEATH!

ERZULIE
GIVE HER WHAT SHE WANTS!

OTHER THREE GODS
GIVE HER WHAT SHE...? ↓

ERZULIE
GIVE HER WHAT SHE WANTS

LOVE HAS MANY POW'RS
IF THE LOVE IF TRUE ↓

(ERZULIE turns to ASAKA.)
IT CAN CROSS THE EARTH

(To AGWE)
AND WITHSTAND THE STORM

(To PAPA GE)
IT CAN CONQUER EVEN YOU!

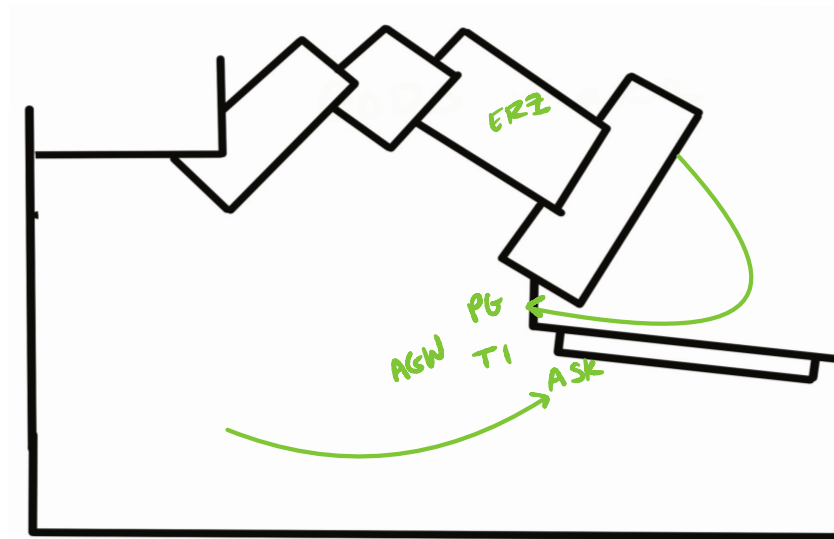
PAPA GE
Love conquer death? Why, I could stop her heart like that!
(HE snaps HIS fingers scornfully)

ERZULIE
Stop her heart from beating, yes. But not from loving. Not
if love is what she chooses.

PAPA GE
Ridiculous!

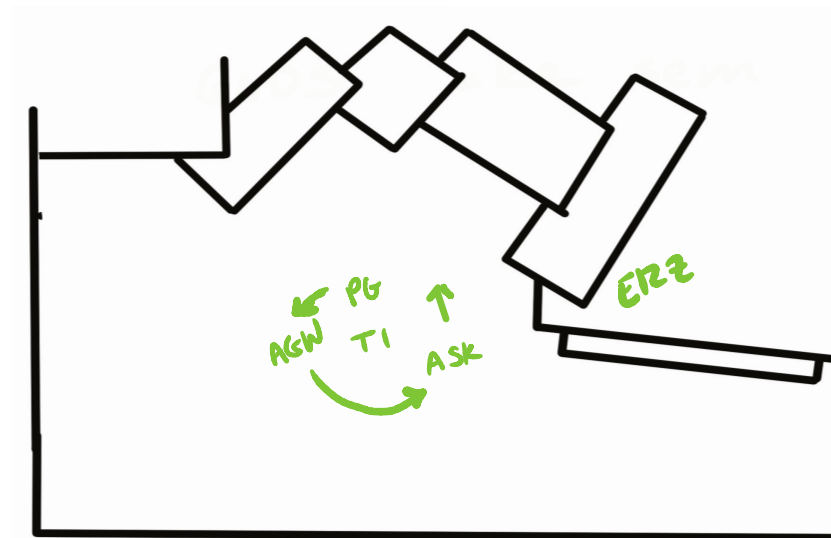
AGWE
Interesting!

ASAKA
More amusing than mangos!

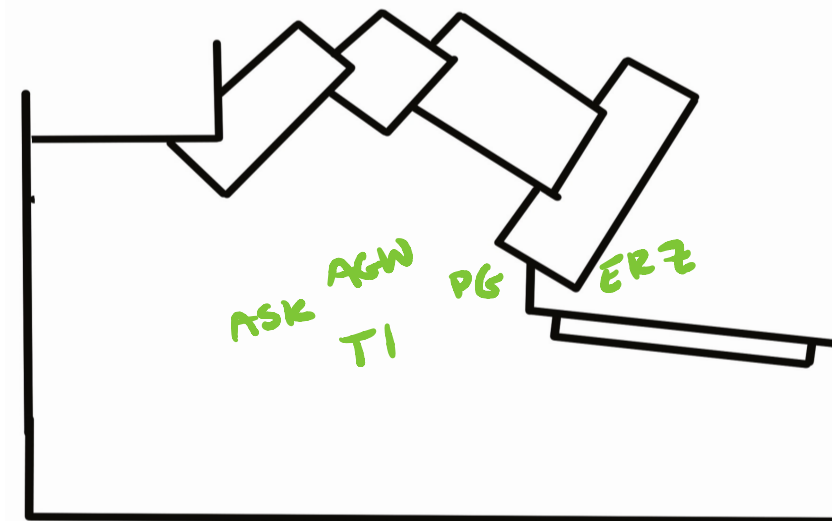


GODS make
semi-circle
around TI

ALL
LOOK@
ERZ → ERZ
x down
plats



GODS circle TI as ERZ addresses them



(THE GODS begin to circle, deep in collective thought. They all come up with an idea at the same time.)

FOUR GODS

Hmm. ↓

(THEY reject this idea.)

No.

(A funny idea now strikes them.)

FOUR GODS

Hmm!

(And then, the best thought of all.)

A journey!

ERZULIE

↓ I WILL GIVE HER STRENGTH
WHEN THE TIME IS RIGHT

ASAKA

↓ I WILL GUIDE HER WAY

PAPA GE

↓ I WILL MAKE HER CHOOSE!

AGWE

↓ AND I'LL PROVIDE THE PLACE
WHERE TWO DIFFERENT WORLDS WILL MEET TONIGHT.

FOUR GODS (A pact)

TONIGHT! ↓

(ERZULIE, PAPA GE and ASAKA exit, as AGWE creates a mysterious night of rain.)

upbeat circle around TI
pause w/ "hmm's"

ERZ x DR "over" TI

ASK x DL "over" TI

PG kneal over TI

AGW x DCIR

ERZ, ASK, PG exit

SR SL USR