

Morton Ranch High School
Fall 2018

Book of Everything Audition Information

The Book of Everything

Book by Guus Kuijer

Script by Richard Tulloch

Auditions will be held THURSDAY September 20

Technical Interviews will be held FRIDAY September 21

Rehearsals begin October 15 and will be Monday – Wednesday from 3p-5p

There will be no Saturday rehearsals.

Performance will be November 29- 30 at 7pm

Acting Auditions

- ***Please submit your audition form on the website:***
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSek0ngFcIhM5bRdTq8ttiOo5gresYoEy3GBVjZxJmWEJ2XE-O/viewform>
- ***Arrive to your audition 10-20 minutes before your time.***
- ***Check in with the stage manager.***
- ***You will slate and perform ONE of the following monologues memorized.***
* Actors auditioning for Thomas must prepare both monologues.

Play Synopsis

Act One

Thomas is a young boy who is able to see things that no one else can, which causes everyone to not believe him. Thomas' father was trying to solve and pray it away by saying that Thomas was sinning by lying. Thomas' father however was very abusive and a coward. He hid behind the Bible saying that it was ok for a man to hit his wife and kids if they disobeyed him. No one in Thomas' family believed him but Eliza(the girl with the leather leg) and Mrs. Van Amersfoort which is also known as the "witch" believed Thomas.

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Act Two

With no one believing Thomas they blamed him for the things such as the frogs at the door and the water turning red and almost killing the guppies. Thomas' father starts hitting his wife because she was changing the water & he believed it was God turning the water into blood. Their neighbor Mrs Van Amersfoort and Auntie Pie find out about the father and what he was doing. Everyone then started to turn against the father and believing Thomas. They had a gathering where Thomas was the main person and they tried to get him to see things and people such as Jesus.

Characters

THOMAS: 9 years old. He is able to see things others can't, he is about 6 years younger than his sister Margot.

MARGOT: She is 16 years old, she doesn't get along with her brother, she follows whatever her father tells her.

ELIZA: Margot's friend, she has a leather leg that creeks, she became close with Thomas and she is one of the few people that believe him.

MOTHER: Does what her husband tells her too until her kids are involved. She is in her late 40's

FATHER: He is in his early 40's and he is a strong believer of the Lord. He hides behind the bible and he is very abusive.

MRS. VAN AMERSFOORT: She is known as the witch that so happens to live next to Thomas. She is one of the people that believes Thomas and his visions. She is German.

AUNTIE PIE: She is around Mother's age, she doesn't believe in men being in control and abusive like her husband.

JESUS: Jesus comes down to talk to Thomas to tell him to trust his father and give him a second chance for what he is doing.

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Thomas (1): The Book of Everything, by Thomas Klopper, aged nine... nearly ten. Address: Breughelstreet 3, Amsterdam, Holland, Europe, Northern Hemisphere, Earth, Solar System, Galaxy, Universe, Space. Year: 1951. My family. There are four people in my family. Me, Thomas Klopper, aged nearly ten, Pappa, who is my father. His name is Mr. Abel Klopper. My mother is called Mamma, Mrs. Klopper, and Jannie. She is very kind to everybody. My sister Margot and she is sixteen. Margo is stupid. My neighbors. Antie Pie always rides a bike, even in the rain. She has been riding for forty-eight years, but she is not very good at it. And next door to us- lives a witch. Her name is Mrs. Van Amersfoort and she always wears black dresses. But the scariest thing in our neighborhood is the Bumbiter. He's a dog. And he bites you... on the bottom!

Thomas (2): The best place for thinking is beside an open window. (He writes..) The Book of Everything... Dear Eliza, maybe you think you're not pretty because you've got a leather leg that creaks when you walk. But you are the prettiest girl in the world. I think one day you will live in a castle with a Rolls Royce in the driveway. I'm not writing thins because I want to be your boyfriend. I know that's impossible because you are sixteen, and I am only nine... nearly ten. I am writing this because it is true. I'll never be brave enough to write that to Eliza.

Father: I want to think today about the true meaning of those plagues of Egypt. God sent the plagues of Egypt to punish the pharaoh for his wickedness. But those plagues were also a warning to the people of Egypt; the same warning that God sends to us here right now- that a time will come when those that do wrong will have to answer for their sins. Take care that your heart belongs to the Bible. 'Then God says to Moses "Go to the pharaoh and tell him to let my people go. And if he will not, then I will send a plague of frogs. The Nile shall swarm with frogs, and they shall force their way to his house, and into his bed, everywhere the frogs shall come." The devil is terribly clever.

Jesus: Hello, Thomas. It's a cruel world, isn't it? People executed for nothing. I won't let them nail me to that cross ever again. Damned if I will. I've had it up to here with that nonsense. Still, mustn't dwell on it too much. Only gets you down. Hey, Thomas- what's up? What's with all this? Didn't I save humanity? I'm glad you exist, Thomas. You're strong, Thomas, strong because you're kind. Will you remember that? We up there are very proud of you. Do you believe me? I had problems with my father, too. Ohh, he was a strict codger! I had to get nailed on the cross whether I liked it or not. I can't find him anywhere. He's not in Heaven- weird. He disappeared after you got your last beating. I think he loved you, Thomas, and he couldn't stand watching that anymore. That's my personal opinion.

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Auntie Pie: Benno hit me! And you know why? Because I bought a pair of slacks. My husband hit me for wearing trousers! Everyone ought to know about this. Margot, Thomas, his older brother, should talk to him and tell him that this is not right. Otherwise I'm standing outside our house with a placard--- "Mr.Klopper hits his wife for wearing trousers!" I mean, has he got a screw loose of what? I'm telling you, if he hits me one more time I'm leaving and never coming back. And from now on I'm only wearing trousers! Duty calls. Back to my pious husband with his flapping hands. But I'll teach him. I'll fix him myself!

Mrs. Van Amersfoort: It's not too heavy for you, is it? You're such a big boy. Just put it over here. Sit anywhere you can, Thomas. We're neighbors, aren't we? Those walls are thin. I'm sorry about the mess. I'm a bit of a jackdaw, you see. I can't stop myself collecting paraphernalia- too much furniture, superfluous to my needs, bric-a-brac... It looks like a witch's house, doesn't it. Here- you've earned a drink- BLOOD! It's cordial, you silly goose! It's nice to have you here. I don't get enough visitors. My children left home long ago, and I don't have a husband since... Oh, no, you're too young to remember the War. The Nazis, they ... executed my husband. He was in the Resistance. Traitors gave him away- poor buggers were afraid for their own skins of course, so the Nazis caught him. They put him up against that wall out there, and they shot him dead. Mustn't dwell on it too much. Here, listen to this. Beautiful, isn't it? Beethoven.