The Lone Cellist written by Adrienne Caravan for CLASS 6B, and cameo by 6A

Set for narrator: Comfortable chair, lamp, side table, large coffee mug with water in it small area rug and script made into an old looking book.

Narrator: Good evening! We hope you will enjoy our comical presentation of “The Lone Cellist”. It is somewhat of a parody of the true story behind strings class block 6b. In an effort to protect no one, NONE of the names or places have been changed.

Curtain closed, Megan comes out alone with her cello case. She looks excited!

Narrator: It was the first day of school and Megan was so excited to go to strings class. She was going to be learning how to play the cello and couldn’t wait to see who the other cellists were in her class.

Curtain opens, other class members are taking their instruments out of their cases. There is excitement in the air and the students are making noises and chatting quietly. Megan goes to the back row and gets her instrument out.

The teacher gets the students attention.

“Hello class! I am your strings teacher Ms. Caravan. I am so excited to meet you! Raise your bows high if you came to learn the violin! Raise your bows high if you came to learn the viola! Well, it looks like everyone here is going to be playing the violin or viola, wonderful! Please find a spot on the risers and we will begin class”

Megan raises her bow high.

Megan: (shyly) “Umm. I actually came to learn the cello,”

Teacher: “Oh, I didn’t even see you back there. Well, it looks like you are the ONLY cellist in this class.

Lights dim, spotlight on Megan, all other students freeze.

Narrator: Megan was obviously disappointed.

Megan: (sighs loudly and drops head)

Violin student hand Megan a violin and bow.

Narrator: At first she considered switching to the violin to avoid being the lone cellist in the class...

Megan: (tries to play the violin, but does it badly, gives up and shakes her head “no”)
Megan gives the violin back to the student.

Narrator: But... she just couldn’t imagine herself as a violinist. So, she decided to make the best of becoming the lone cellist.

Spot light off. Raise lights. Students unfreeze and sit down for bow countdown. Megan walks over to a violist with her bow in preparation for the bow countdown.

Ms. Caravan: Okay class, let’s begin today’s lesson with the bow countdown. I will give you 3 counts to get the perfect bow hold. Hands behind your back, close your eyes... on your mark, get set...go!

Students try to get bow holds, but do it incorrectly.

Ms. Caravan: It looks like we need more practice! Okay class, get with a partner and work on getting your bow hold in 2 counts or less.

Students work in small groups getting their bow hold. Ms. Caravan walks around helping students. Megan and an unnamed violist sit together downstage.

Narrator: It was the beginning of the school year and Megan still didn’t know everyone’s name yet...

Megan: (slowly) Heeeyyou... Will you be my partner?

Violist: Sure. Hey, look... (shoving her bow into Megan’s face) I got this pinkinest for my pinky to rest in and it makes it SO EASY to get my bow hold super fast!

Megan: (rolling her eyes)

The viola student gets her/his bow hold super fast!!! Megan shrugs...

Violist: Okay it’s your turn! On your mark, get set.... GO!

Lights dim, Megan and Ms. Caravan move into position, all other students freeze positions.

Narrator: Megan tried to work with her partner to get her bow hold but as it turned out the cello bow hold was quite different than her partner’s. She wished there was a pinkinest or something for the cello bow hold to help her out too. So she asked Ms. Caravan if they made anything like that for cello players.

Spot light on Megan and Ms. Caravan
Megan: (turning to Ms. Caravan) Do they make something like that for the cello bow hold?

Ms. Caravan: No.

Spot light off. Megan and an unnamed violinist get into playing position down center stage. Everyone else continues to freeze position, Ms. Caravan moves out of the way.

Narrator: Thaaaat isn’t entirely true. (taking a sip of coffee) During the production of this show Ms. Caravan found a bow accessory for cellists called the CelloPhant, available from Amazon.com for only $29.95 plus shipping and handling. Unfortunately for Megan, she wasn’t privy to this information. So Megan continued to try and make the best of being the lone cellist. One day during class Megan tried to play with one of the violin students...

Megan: Hey, do you want to try to play Pepperoni Pizza together?

Unnamed violinist: Sure!

Unnamed violinist plays intro in A Major. Megan joins in D Major. The two play in parallel 5ths until they realize how odd it sounds. Both students get a funny facial expression, shake their heads “no” and the violinist walks away. Megan sighs with disappointment.

Curtain Closes

Narrator: Megan was having a tough time finding her place among all these violin and viola players. It just didn’t seem like she fit in. One day Ms. Caravan was introducing a new song. The class was excited to have moved on from the SEVEN Twinkle Variations... after all, it had been FOUR months!

(taking a sip of coffee) Let’s see, now where were we... Right, four months had passed and Megan was becoming the sad lone cellist, but the good news is that Ms. Caravan was finally introducing a new song.

Curtain opens.

Ms. Caravan: Okay class, today we will play “Go Tell Aunt Rhody”. This song is very legato, so you have to play it smoothly like this (demonstrating in D Major). Okay, let’s start with violins first, ready play (playing only the first 4 notes). Violas join in! Megan since you are the ONLY cellist, why don’t you try it all by yourself.

Narrator: When Megan began to play something happened!

Megan begins to play Go Tell Aunt Rhody in D minor with a sad face.
Narrator: It was no longer recognizable as Go Tell Aunt Rhody… she was playing the tune in the key of D minor, otherwise known as Sad Rhody, aka Don’t tell Aunt Rhody the Old Gray Goose is actually DEAD! It was impossible to cheer Megan up. Clearly she was unhappy being the lone cellist.

*Dim lights. Block 6a violin and viola students walk on to stage and find positions. 4 students bring in gray chairs for the front row cellists.*

Narrator: One day SOL exams were being administered so the normal bell schedule got pretty screwed up. Suddenly Megan found herself in strings class with several more violinists and violists from strings class 6a. Just when she thought she was even more outnumbered in walked 3 cello students!

*Marcino, Kenneth, and Catt walk in with their cellos and sit down.*

Narrator: Megan couldn’t believe her eyes. She wasn’t the lone cellist after all!

Mrs. Caravan: Okay, the SOLs are going on so thank you very much for being here during your resource block. Let’s get started with our newest song, “Go Tell Aunt Rhody”. Oh, Megan… is there anyway you can steer clear of the key of D minor today, otherwise known as Sad Rhody?

*Megan smiled. Everyone freeze positions.*

Narrator: With all her new cello friends, Megan was happy to transpose back to the parallel minor key of D major. And just like that everyone lived happily ever-

Megan: (interrupting the narrator, stands up suddenly and shouts) WAIT a minute! What is that on your bow?!

Catt: Oh, that is a CelloPhant. It basically makes it really easy to hold the bow. I can get the bow hold in like less than one count now!

Megan: Where did you GET that?

Catt: Ms. Caravan

*Catt and Megan freeze positions.*

Narrator: Luckily Catt was generous and offered to switch bows with Megan for their final performance of “Go Tell Aunt Rhody” in the happy key of D Major.

(students perform Go Tell Aunt Rhody)

*END*