



by Rebecca Wilson Macsovits

\*\*\*\*\* **PLAY MANUSCRIPT** \*\*\*\*\*

GUION THE LION: A COLORFUL WORLD

**Cast**

*(in order of appearance)*

Guion (rhymes with lion) – rainbow-colored lion who is full of hope

Ostrich – older animal who is spirited yet wise

Pangolin – young and shy

Monkey – adolescent and frantic

Elephant

Cheetah

Hippo

Zebra (extras)

Giraffes (extras)

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Act I, Scene I

The entire savannah landscape is gray. Zebras and giraffes are in their own groups in the distance. There isn't a sound to be heard except light steps in the dry grass or soft munching of animals in the distance.

Guion: (bounding into scene) Look out world, here I come!

Guion: (panting and looking around confused) How odd! Where did all the color go? This place needs some pizzazz!

Guion grabs his finger paints out of his backpack and wipes a handful across the rocks. The colors vanish.

Guion: Hmm! What happened?

Guion looks down at his hands and his body and has an idea.

Guion: Wait a minute! Maybe the color got turned off – like a light switch. I just need to flip it back on. But where could it be?"

Guion sets off on a search for the switch

Guion: (looking in a bush) Not in here.  
(looking under a rock) Not under there.  
(looking behind a tree) Not behind here, either.

Act I, Scene II

Guion: (tripping over squirming Ostrich legs) Oops! That's one crazy dance!

Ostrich: (muffled voice) My head's stuck!

Guion: Well, that's no fun." (pulling on Ostrich's body) One, two, three!

Ostrich's head makes a loud "Pop" when coming out of ground

Ostrich: Whew! Thanks! (smoothing her feathers) You're a life-saver. No one else even stopped!

Ostrich twirls around but halts mid-spin when she sees Guion.

Ostrich: Honey, aren't you a sight for sore eyes? (sighing) The world used to be filled with beautiful colors. (shaking her head) I don't know what happened here.

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Guion: (excited) I think the color switch got turned off. I just need to find it and flip it on.

Ostrich: (looking hopeful) Sugar, that's a marvelous idea! Good luck! And thanks for rescuing me.

Guion waves goodbye to continue his journey.

Act I, Scene III

Guion is soon knocked over by a fast-moving ball. Pangolin skids to a stop, uncurls his body, sees Guion and promptly tucks his head.

Guion: (dusting himself off as he gets up) What's your hurry?

Pangolin: (still tucked in a ball, mutters) I'm late. I'm rolling to the river as fast as I can."

Guion: (with lots of energy) I'm lightning quick – jump on!

Pangolin: (shaking his head) No, thanks, Mr. Lion I learned very early to take care of myself.

Guion: Even if I can help?

Pangolin: (looks into Guion's eyes and whispers) I *am* in a big rush

Pangolin awkwardly climbs on Guion's back. The two animals talk while they travel.

Guion: Any idea where I might find the switch to turn on the missing colors?

Pangolin: (shrugs his shoulders) No, but I've heard stories of brighter places. We could use some around here.

The two companions arrive at the river and Pangolin rolls off.

Pangolin: Hey, thanks for the ride.

Guion: My pleasure

Act I, Scene IV

The sun is starting to set near the river. Guion sees Monkey pacing at the river's edge.

Guion: What's got you in a tizzy?

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Monkey: (complaining loudly) See those delicious berries? I'm starving, but I can't swim.

Guion: I'll paddle you across.

Monkey: (grumbling) Forget it. Something about *that* doesn't feel right! (seeing Guion's puzzled look, clarifies) You aren't one of my kind.

Guion: (cheerfully) Suit yourself, but it's no bother.

Monkey: (looking Guion up and down again) Well, I am really hungry.

Monkey climbs on Guion's back and Guion swims them across the river.

Monkey: (jumping off, exclaiming) Impressive! Extraordinary! Thanks for the swim and the color show.

Guion: (panting) Have you seen the switch...?

Monkey had already scurried up the tree.

Act I, Scene V

Guion lies down in the tall grass and looks around at the darkness surrounding him.

Guion: This place just feels so lonely. (Sighing) But I know color will change everything. I'll try again in the morning.

Act II, Scene I

Light falls on the savannah and it is full of vibrant colors and sounds – lots of laughter. Guion wakes up and hears the noise and starts running towards the sounds. He finds a bunch of brilliantly colored animals giggling together. The animals see Guion and they race towards him.

Monkey: (screeching) When Elephant couldn't reach a piece of fruit, I handed it to him. Suddenly, green spilled over his trunk and danced up my arm!

Ostrich: Ooh, ooh! As soon as Cheetah agreed to let me deliver his message, swirls of orange burst across my gorgeous feathers *and* over his spotted fur. Sugar, it was amazing!

Pangolin: (softly talking) Mr. Lion, I did it, too! I rolled across Hippo's back to scratch an itch she couldn't reach. Next thing we knew, purple stripes covered us both!"

Guion: (laughing) Spectacular! Looks like you found the switch!

Animals: (in unison, cheering) We *all* did!

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Act II, Scene II

Guion is comfortably alone, smiling and enjoying the colors in the sky. Guion flips over to his front paws.

Guion: (giggling) Let's see what happens when this colorful world turns upside down!

