**WHACK A M(HOLE)**

**CHARACTERS**

JONATHAN: Calm and thoughtful 12-year-old boy

ADAM: Naughty and mischievous 12-year-old boy

ARIEL: 12-year-old boy who was a little bit of a follower

MS. MORAD: A homeroom teacher who taught the 3 boys

DR. KORIN: Principal

Abby: Happy and kind 10 year old girl

**SCENE ONE**

Recess yard of a school in downtown Toronto

JONATHAN: You goofball! You’re not supposed to bring out snacks on the school yard! If Ms. Morad catches you with your snack outside, you’re going to get in trouble!

ADAM: Pffft…what is she really going to do to me?

ARIEL: Yeah! Adam is practically bulletproof! He never really gets into any trouble.

JONATHAN: Suit yourselves!

ADAM: Want to go to the sand trap and mess around?

ARIEL: Works for me! Come Jonny!

(The three boys walk over the sand trap area far away from the school entrance and exit doors. The sand trap is a rough patch carved into the grassy field area that is occasionally used for track and field long jump competitions but is primarily used by younger students as a makeshift sandbox. One can often find shovels and buckets strewn across and left outside indifferently)

ADAM: Woah! Check that out!

(The three boys gather around a large, square piece of plywood that someone left by the sand trap).

ARIEL: I wonder who left this here.

JONATHAN: I have no idea. I wonder if someone flipped it over the fence because they were too lazy to trash it in the dump. Welcome to downtown Toronto! Litter capital of the world!

ADAM: Wait…wait…wait. (Waves index finger triumphantly into the air)Wait a moment! Boys…huddle around! I’ve got a brilliant idea.

(Adam coaxes Ariel and Jonathan into a makeshift huddle)

You see this here spoon in my hand? When I’m done this apple sauce, we’re going to change the world with this spoon. I was in the shower this morning trying to come up with some wild pranks to drive the teachers mad before we bounce off to high school. We’re gonna dig a hole. In fact, we are going to dig a hole so deep in the sand pit that I can disappear into it. Picture a deep mine shaft. Can you imagine it?! We’ll use this piece of discarded wood to cover up our progress. It might take a while but imagine how wild it will be when I vanish. Good ol’ Ms. Morad will have a heart attack! It will be the ultimate revenge for all that she has offered me!

JONATHAN: You’re a lunatic!

ARIEL: Jonny’s got a point.

ADAM: You two can’t squeal! You’re already wrapped up too deep now to say no. It’s my plan anyways and I’ll take the heat. I’ll go down in history as the Houdini of this school! I’ll go to my grave so to speak and come back alive and maybe Ms. Morad will have a heart attack and we can bury her in the hole that I’ll hide out in.

JONATHAN: Oh please!

ARIEL: And what are we going to do with the other 250 kids roaming around at recess? They’re just going to leave us be and keep their noses out of us digging a hole six feet deep? (Sarcastically) I’m sure that will work!

ADAM: Easy. The three of us will take shifts digging and guarding the hole. Jonny, you’re pretty intimidating! Just approach the lil’ squirts and tell them to bugger off!

JONATHAN: (Rolls eyes) Whatever! You’re nuts!

ADAM: Boys! We start tomorrow. Bring a spoon or a toy shovel from home. Don’t be shy but don’t make things too obvious or we’ll blow our cover and the project.

**SCENE TWO**

Lunch Recess by the sand trap/pit.

A month has passed and some progress has been made with the three boys about two feet deep.

JONATHAN: Ah this sucks! I just gave myself a splinter hauling this piece of wood on top of our hole. I wish we had a permanent trap door.

ADAM: These nosy kids won’t keep us alone. Everyone has to be in our business instead of minding their own! It’s worth it though Jonny! Think small. Every day a bit more. Ariel has been doing a bang up job of spreading the sand and dirt and clay we’re digging up across the field. Jonny, it’s your turn to dig. Ariel, you keep on sprinkling and spreading what we dig and I’ll stand guard.

JONATHAN: How much are we getting paid to do this again?

ADAM: You’ll be paid in belly laughs when you see Ms. Morad trying to locate me when I disappear and fail to return from recess. She’ll call the police, the army, the navy, the air force and I’ll call her an ambulance when she faints and I jump up out of the hole and surprise her.

**SCENE THREE**

First recess by the sand trap/pit

Four months have passed. The hole now is six feet deep.

ADAM: Today’s the day boys. I can’t believe we haven’t been caught. I can’t wait to get caught…mind you after a bit of wicked fun!

JONATHAN: Have I mentioned that you’re a lunatic?!

ARIEL: You’re certifiable but so is Ms. Morad. She’s gonna panic!

ADAM: C’mon! There’s no time to waste! Jonny, push the trap door aside and I’ll lower myself in.

JONATHAN: Oh heck no! I’m not going to get myself any more involved than I already am. I must be a sucker helping thus far.

ADAM: Fine! Ariel, you’re up!

(Ariel slides the square piece of plywood aside and with the two boys shielding the opening of the hole, Adam lowers himself in while Ariel replaces the makeshift lid)

JONATHAN: You sure you can breathe in there?

ADAM: Yep! Ariel…how many minutes until the recess bell rings?!

ARIEL: Start counting down! You have one minute till the bell rings and Ms. Morad starts to panic!

ADAM: Remember you two! Keep your mouths shut just like this trap door! It’s all on me. Don’t you ever forget about me in case they expel me from school!

(The recess bell rings and Ariel and Jonathan trudge back into the school nervously)

**SCENE FOUR**

Inside of Room 8B. Students are seated at their desks anxiously prepping for their math test

MS. MORAD: I hope everyone had a great recess. You all look rosy cheeked and sweaty which is good because you won’t sweat this math test much. It’s fairly straightforward…where’s Adam? Jonathan, is he is the washroom? I told him to tell me before he goes…especially after recess.

JONATHAN: I have no idea Ms. Morad.

MS. MORAD: Ariel, any idea where he might be?

ARIEL: I have no idea. We hung out at recess but he vanished as we were lining up to come back into the school.

MS. MORAD: Vanished you say? Are you kidding? I take your safety seriously. Honestly, where is he?

JONATHAN: Ariel’s right Ms. Morad. It was like “Poof!”. Neither one of us have any idea.

(Ms. Morad doesn’t waste any time. She grabs the classroom phone off of its cradle and presses 11 to connect with Dr. Korin, the principal).

MS. MORAD: (Into the phone in a somewhat panicked voice) Dr. Korin…er…well I honestly don’t know what to say. Adam hasn’t returned back to class after recess. His peers have no idea where he is.

DR. KORIN: (Off stage) I’ll call Jerry the caretaker to check all of the boys’ washrooms and I’ll have Ms. Hagler drop into your class to free you and I up to look for him outside.

(Dr. Korin appears in the doorway of the class moments later)

DR. KORIN: Ms. Morad, Ms. Hagler will take over. Come join me outside. This is no laughing matter and I have told Ms. Zahara to be on standby. I’ll walkie talkie her to call the police if we don’t find him outside.

**SCENE FIVE**

Ms. Morad and Dr. Korin bolt out through the school doors

MS. MORAD: Adam! Adam? Where are you! Come out this instant!

DR. KORIN: Adam! We need to know that you’re safe. Adam? Adam!?

(Ms. Morad and Dr. Korin move about and venture from the pavement to the grassy field shouting out for Adam)

MS. MORAD: I’m honestly going to lose it. Where is he?!

DR. KORIN: I don’t have the foggiest idea. (Into his walkie talkie) Ms. Zahara, please contact the police. Adam Gallant remains missing. Notify his parents and immediately review the security camera footage.

MS. MORAD: Adam! Adam! Where are you? Adam?

(Ms. Morad and Dr. Korin now stand feet away from the sand trap)

DR. KORIN: Let’s check every square inch of this property. I have a really odd feeling about this. I’m frankly nervous as can be.

(Adam explodes out of the hole knocking the makeshift trap door into the air which falls onto the ground with a heavy thud)

ADAM: Surprise!

(Dr. Korin looks as though he has seen a ghost and immediately pivots to catch a startled and fainting Ms. Morad in his arms)

DR. KORIN: Adam!!!!! What?! Adam! I’m at a total loss. What have I just witnessed? Are you okay? You’re okay. Are you insane?! What? (Gestures towards the deep hole) In all my years, I have never…how can this be possible?!

ADAM: Impressive! Ain’t it?

(Ms. Morad starts stirring and is aghast and frozen in place)

MS. MORAD: Adam. Honestly, Adam! What have I just witnessed?

DR. KORIN: I just said the very same thing moments ago. Adam! Inside right this instant. You and I are going to debrief in my office. Ms. Morad, take some time to liven up. Remember, Ms. Hagler has your class covered and rejoin them when you feel up to it. Adam…hustle inside NOW!

(Dr. Korin does an about face and marches inside unamused. He doesn’t wait nor does he look back to make sure Adam is following him. Adam in fact dutifully follows him inside awaiting his punishment)

**SCENE SIX**

Adam and Dr. Korin are frozen in a tableau. The narrator strolls on stage and addresses the audience

NARRATOR: It didn’t take long for Adam’s parents to be notified. The punishment was a significant one. He had his recess privileges stripped for a month. His bank account was drained as well. He had to take responsibility and have the deep hole professionally filled with soil, gravel, and sand purchased from a local home building store. Ms. Morad did not go to her grave but Adam certainly took one of her nine lives away in the process while leaving a memorable yet questionable legacy behind.