



ONE LAST TIME!

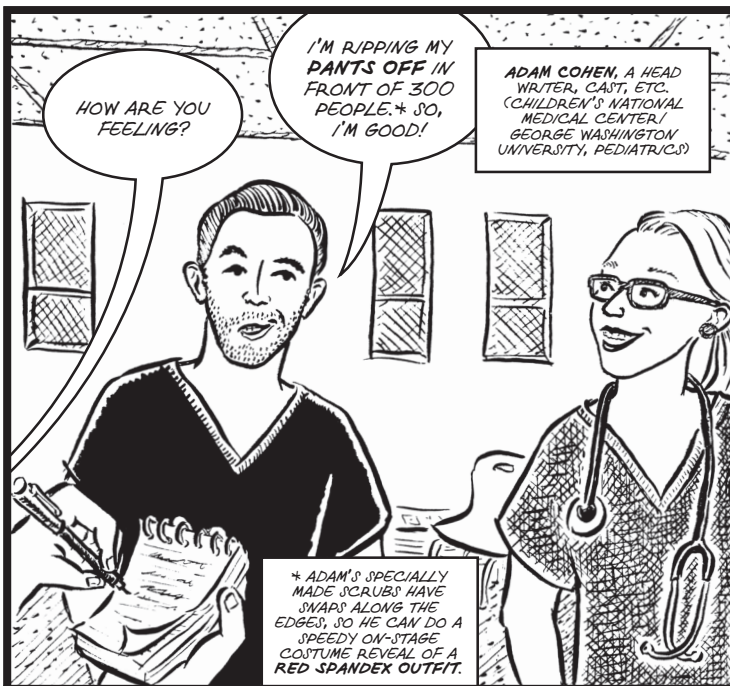
BY EM DEMARCO

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*HEN WE LAST LEFT THE CLASS OF 2015, THE STUDENTS HAD JUST A FEW WEEKS TO GET EVERYTHING IN ORDER BEFORE **SCOPE AND SCALPEL'S** OPENING NIGHT. DURING THE FINAL COUNTDOWN, TENSIONS RAN HIGH. THE ORCHESTRA COULDN'T MAKE THE LAST FEW REHEARSALS BECAUSE OF A MAJOR EXAM. SOME OF THE BLOCKING ON STAGE STILL NEEDED TO BE **FINESSED** ... AND NOW, IN LESS THAN AN HOUR, THE CURTAIN WILL RISE ON THE 60TH **SCOPE AND SCALPEL** PERFORMANCE.*

*THIS YEAR'S STORY PARODIES **MODERN FAMILY**, A TV COMEDY THAT USES A DOCUMENTARY STYLE (THE CHARACTERS OFTEN SPEAK DIRECTLY TO THE CAMERA). THE HEART OF THE STUDENT SHOW **EXPLORES LOVE, SCHOOL, AND PRESSURES** FROM PARTNERS AND PARENTS. ONE CHARACTER IS GAY, WITH A NEW BABY; ANOTHER IS A HIGH-ACHIEVER WHO MAY HAVE FOUND TWO PASSIONS AMID HER METICULOUSLY ORGANIZED LIFE. BOTH ARE MED STUDENTS AND CHILDREN OF DOCTORS; THEY ARE STRUGGLING TO FIND THEIR OWN PATHS.*

OUR STORY BEGINS BENEATH THE STAGE. ABOVE US ARE THE SOUNDS OF FEET SCUFFLING AS THE ORCHESTRA TWEAKS ITS CUES. HERE IN THE PREP ROOM, IT'S A FRENZY OF ACTIVITY AS PROPS ARE POSITIONED FOR DEPLOYMENT, WIGS ARE DONNED, MAKEUP IS APPLIED ...



HOW ARE YOU FEELING?

I'M RIPPING MY PANTS OFF IN FRONT OF 300 PEOPLE.* SO, I'M GOOD!

ADAM COHEN, A HEAD WRITER, CAST, ETC. (CHILDREN'S NATIONAL MEDICAL CENTER, GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY, PEDIATRICS)

* ADAM'S SPECIALLY MADE SCRUBS HAVE SWAPS ALONG THE EDGES, SO HE CAN DO A SPEEDY ON-STAGE COSTUME REVEAL OF A RED SPANDEX OUTFIT.



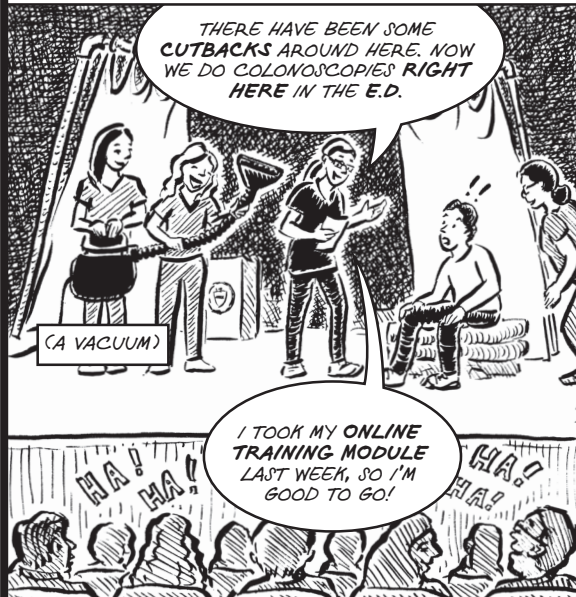
LOOK HOW FAR WE HAVE COME! IN JUST A FEW SHORT WEEKS, WE'VE BEEN ABLE TO BRING TOGETHER THE IDEA THAT STARTED MANY MONTHS AGO BY THE WRITING COMMITTEE ...

... AND IT COULDN'T HAVE HAPPENED WITHOUT EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU!

LET'S GO HAVE ONE HECK OF A SHOW!

JORDAN KNOX, DIRECTOR, CAST, ETC. (UNIVERSITY OF UTAH AFFILIATED HOSPITALS, FAMILY MEDICINE)

AND WITH THAT, THE 60TH PRODUCTION OF SCOPE AND SCALPEL IS UNDER WAY.



THERE HAVE BEEN SOME CUTBACKS AROUND HERE. NOW WE DO COLONOSCOPIES RIGHT HERE IN THE E.D.

(A VACUUM)

I TOOK MY ONLINE TRAINING MODULE LAST WEEK, SO I'M GOOD TO GO!

HA! HA!

HA! HA!

DURING A SCENE ABOUT PREPPING FOR AN ANATOMY EXAM, STUDENTS PLAY A DRINKING GAME IN FRONT OF A PAINTED BACKDROP OF THE ANATOMY LAB -- FEATURING BODIES UNDER SHEETS AND A SKULL ON ONE OF THE TABLES ...



I TALKED TO DR. S. YESTERDAY. HE SAID THAT IF IT GETS TOO HARD, IT'S OK TO TOUCH YOURSELF DURING THE EXAM.

I THINK I LOVE THIS GIRL!

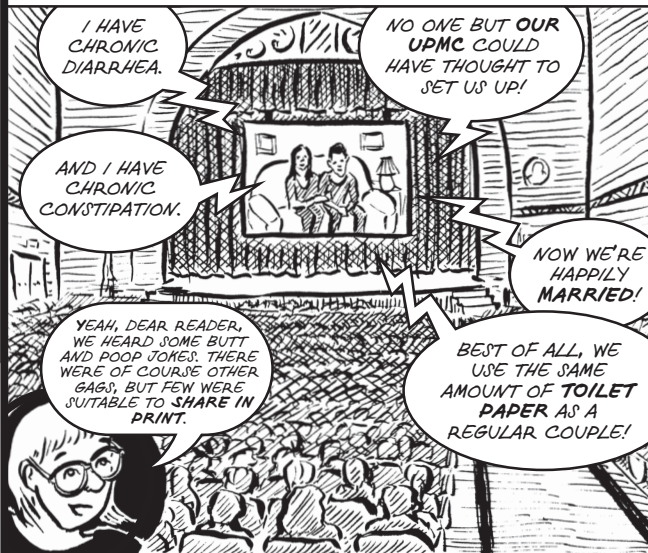
BACKSTAGE, STUDENTS RUN FROM THE WINGS TO CHANGE COSTUMES.



I'M REALLY EXCITED. IT'S RUNNING ITSELF ... I THINK THE AUDIENCE IS ENJOYING IT. THERE ARE LAUGHS AT THINGS THAT WE HADN'T REMEMBERED WERE FUNNY!

SARAH COHEN, ART. DIRECTOR, WRITING COMMITTEE, ETC. (DUKE UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER, INTERNAL MEDICINE - PEDIATRICS)

BEFORE INTERMISSION, ONE OF THE "COMMERCIALS" ON THE SCREEN OVERHEAD IS A JOKE ABOUT HOW THE DATA COLLECTED BY THE MEDICAL CENTER FOR PERSONALIZED MEDICINE INSTEAD ARE USED TO CREATE AN ONLINE DATING AND MATCHMAKER SERVICE CALLED OUR UPMC.



I HAVE CHRONIC DIARRHEA.

NO ONE BUT OUR UPMC COULD HAVE THOUGHT TO SET US UP!

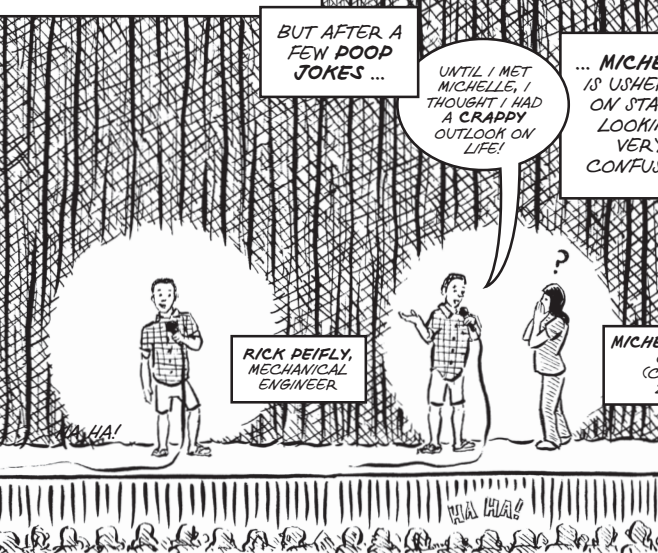
AND I HAVE CHRONIC CONSTIPATION.

NOW WE'RE HAPPILY MARRIED!

YEAH, DEAR READER, WE HEARD SOME BUTT AND POOP JOKES. THERE WERE OF COURSE OTHER GAGS, BUT FEW WERE SUITABLE TO SHARE IN PRINT.

BEST OF ALL, WE USE THE SAME AMOUNT OF TOILET PAPER AS A REGULAR COUPLE!

THEN A "REAL, LIVE" OUR UPMC USER TAKES THE STAGE, REGALING THE AUDIENCE WITH HOW HE FOUND LOVE USING THIS MATCHING SERVICE.



BUT AFTER A FEW POOP JOKES ...

UNTIL I MET MICHELLE, I THOUGHT I HAD A CRAPPY OUTLOOK ON LIFE!

... MICHELLE IS USHERED ON STAGE, LOOKING VERY CONFUSED.

MICHELLE, WILL YOU MARRY ME?

RICK PEIFLY, MECHANICAL ENGINEER

MICHELLE DAIL, CAST. (CLASS OF 2017)

USUALLY THE FIRST ACT ENDS WITH A BIG NUMBER, NOT AN ACTUAL MARRIAGE PROPOSAL.

THE SECOND ACT IS PEPPERED WITH CROWD FAVORITES -- AN ELABORATE **BOLLYWOOD DANCE**, A TODDLER IN SCRUBS (A GOOD-NATURED JAB AT ONE OF THE INSTRUCTORS), AND A SCOPE AND SCALPEL TRADITION ...

... UTERUS COSTUMES!

THE SONG, "I-U-D," PARODIES "I WILL WAIT" BY MUMFORD & SONS, AND FEATURES COSTUMED STUDENTS WEARING IUD, SPERM, AND UTERUS OUTFITS.

THIS YEAR'S HANDMADE "LEFT SHARK" COSTUME POKES FUN AT POP STAR KATY PERRY'S NOTORIOUSLY OUT-OF-STEP BACKUP DANCER DURING THE 2015 SUPERBOWL.



SUNDAY'S PERFORMANCE GOES JUST AS WELL AS THE FIRST NIGHT'S.

EARLIER, A '55 ALUM SAID,

IT'S SOMETHING THAT I'VE LOOKED FORWARD TO SINCE MY FIRST YEAR ...

HOPEFULLY, AT THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY I CAN COME BACK AND WATCH.

"WE HAD NO IDEA THERE WAS GOING TO BE A 1956 [PRODUCTION], LET ALONE A 60TH ANNIVERSARY."

THE WHIRLWIND WEEKEND OF WIGS, MAKEUP, AND ADRENALINE ENDS. TOMORROW THE STUDENTS GRADUATE -- STEPPING ONTO A STAGE TOGETHER FOR ONE LAST TIME, TO GET THEIR M.D.s.

* MY MIND IS SET, AND THIS I VOW THAT NO ONE IN THIS TOWN OF STEEL CAN TELL ME WHAT TO DO OR FEEL AND NO ONE'S GONNA BRING MEEEEEE DOWNWWN!

* "DEFYING FAMILY," SUNG TO "DEFYING GRAVITY" FROM THE MUSICAL WICKED.



KATHLENE BABALOLA, CAST: CALBERT EINSTEIN MEDICAL CENTER, EMERGENCY MEDICINE



GURNEY RISING

THE END!