DIANA SIDES #2 Reader reads VERA, PAULINE, MARJORIE, ANDRE

Andre: Thanks.

(Andre exits.)

(switch)

SCENE 14 - The Big Day October 25, 1991

(Thomas is in bed. The rest of the cast stands in isolated spots, looking out various windows to the street. Diana enters in her pink suit and crosses. The cast moves to their next positions in a flurry- Andre in bed, Marjorie standing beside him. Thomas in bed, Pauline holding his hand. Vera and Diana circle together as the other wait quietly and nervously. Vera and Diana enter the room.)

START Vera: Now may I introduce Andre and his friend Marjorie-

Diana: Hello.

(They nod their heads and Marjorie does a self-conscious half-curtsy)

Vera: And this is Thomas and his sister Pauline.

Pauline: It's a pleasure to meet you, your Highne-... Your Royal Highness.

Diana: It's all my pleasure.

(Diana crosses to Thomas and Pauline)

Diana: May I?

Pauline: Please.

(Diana takes Thomas' hand)

Diana: For how long has he been in a coma?

Pauline: Since yesterday. He was so excited about meeting you.

Diana: Well he's meeting me now. Hello Thomas, it's a pleasure.

Pauline: That's where he would probably have made some awkward joke about not being appropriately dressed.

Diana: I think he looks marvellous.

Pauline:	He loves you so much.
Diana:	Would you tell me about him?
Pauline:	He… Well he is… My brother is one of the most… <i>(she brims with pain and sadness)</i> . Sorry.
Vera:	Thomas is one of the funniest people I've ever had the pleasure of working with.
Diana:	Yes, I can see the sense of humour around his eyes.
Marjorie:	And honest.
Pauline:	Sometimes a bit too honest.
Diana:	That's a bit of a gift and a curse, isn't it?
Pauline:	There were a lot of things he wanted to say but I can't I don't know where to-
(Diana takes Pauline's hand too. Andre takes Marjorie's hand, they look at each other. Everyone is still in a silence)	
Diana:	There. It was nice to meet you Thomas.
(She replaces his hand on his chest)	
Andre:	There was a question he wanted to ask.
Diana:	Yes?

Andre: He said it would sound dumb, but that it'd be the perfect icebreaker and you'd have the exact perfect answer.

Diana: What was it?

(Andre looks to Vera and Marjorie. They smile)

Andre: What are you going to be for Halloween? END

SCENE 15 - Thomas and Diana

(There's a transition. The stage darkens. It's night. Pauline sits by Thomas' bed reading. Andre sits up in his bed writing in his journal. Vera and Marjorie are at the nurse's station. Thomas sits up in bed. Diana crosses in front of him, exiting)