

DAISY AMAZED ME

By Jason Hall

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Characters:

Daisy, a young girl

Daisy's **Mom**

The Internet

The Talker Doctor

Pharmaquizzicles

A **Chorus** of Schoolchildren

A Note on the Text:

The company is free to interpret and adapt the following text as they see fit: swapping line assignments, deleting/duplicating lines, re-ordering scenes, etc. As the text is written in verse, some or all of the play may be set to music.

A Note on the Number of Actors:

This play was commissioned to be performed by three actors, supported by a Stage Manager. As such, no more than three speaking characters appear in any scene.

(As the audience enter, DAISY mixes with them and possibly sits near the playing area. The performance begins with THE CHORUS searching the audience looking for DAISY.)

1. OMG!

CHORUS *(To various audience members.)* Oh my goodness! What do I see?
Say, do you know Daisy?
Oh my goodness! Hello you!
Daisy? You know her? You surely do?

Yes?
No.
Hmmm...
Oh!

If you don't know our Daisy, that's perfectly fair,
She's quiet and shy sometimes, you'd forget that she's there.
But if you don't know Daisy, you must know her Mom.
She's bright and she's colourful; outrageously fun.

She has energy to spare!
She has wild frizzy hair!
And sure Daisy's a little bit meek
And sometimes her voice a tad weak

And okay Daisy might not speak her mind,
But her Mom is awesome. So, really, it's fine!

Oh my goodness! Look who's here!
Daisy's finally appeared!
Oh my gracious! Daisy, eh?
Tell us how you are today!

2. DAISY

CHORUS Hello...Daisy?
What d'you say?
What was that?

Can you say again?
Can't you speak up?
Hello Daisy – we're your friends!
So...say something then!

DAISY *(Very quiet.)* Hi.

3. THE FLEA AND THE DRUM

CHORUS Oh, man, what was that?
 Was that a word?
 Was that a hum?
 Maybe that was just a flea
 bouncing on a drum?
 No that's just Daisy
 Quiet as can be
 No strength in her anywhere,
 No fire I can see.
 Right?

DAISY No.

CHORUS Oh, wow, you hear that?
 Was that a word?
 Was that a hum?
 Maybe that was just a flea
 bouncing on a drum?
 No that's just Daisy
 You wouldn't hear a meep
 You'd really get more noise
 From a mute and sleeping sheep.
 Right?

DAISY No.

CHORUS Oh, gosh, you hear that?
 Was that word?
 Was that a hum?
 Maybe that was just a flea
 Bouncing on a drum?
 No that's just Daisy
 Who barely makes a sound
 It's like watching television
 With the volume turned down.
 Right?

DAISY No.

CHORUS Oh, gee, I take it back.
 Was that a word?
 Was that a hum?
 Hey – wait!
 Look who it is!
 It's...
 It's...

Daisy's Mom!

4. DAISY'S MOM

MOM Hello, hello children I can't linger, hang or stay
 But Daisy dear I made your lunch and before you left today
 I forgot to put it out!
 So I zipped on over on my super-vroomer scooter (ain't it cool?)
 Hoping that I'd catch you here before the bell for school.
 Which I did!
 Here's your lunch –
 A homemade pizza pocket stuffed with freshest veg
 And as a special treat my reverse brownies (fudge around the edge).
 There's filtered glacier water with a hint of mint infused,
 And berries and bananas at snack time should you choose.
 Now Daisy, will you tell me this before I vroom away:
 How is all that sounding? Is it all okay?

DAISY Yes.

MOM Yea!
 So, goodbye, goodbye children, I can't linger, hang or stay
 But...oh, I see you darlings here at school and I've simply got to say
 How magnificently fabulous you are.
 Truly!
 What orchards are your minds
 Ripe with fresh imagination
 And ideas of all kinds.
 If somehow I could juice that fruit and drink it – ooh, divine!
 It would make my job much easier, I say that all the time.
 I'm telling you!

5. TELL, TELL, TELL

CHORUS Telling us?

MOM Yes!

CHORUS Telling us?

MOM Yes...?

CHORUS Can you tell us, tell us, tell us what you're working on today?

MOM Now children, children, children that would give the game away!

CHORUS Please tell us, tell us, tell us – it's the game we want to know!

MOM Now children, children, children when it's ready then I'll show!

CHORUS Please tell us!

MOM Don't be jealous.

CHORUS Please tell us!

MOM Help me fellas!

CHORUS Tell!

MOM Well.

CHORUS Tell!

MOM I'll...

CHORUS Tell?

MOM Fell into that one, didn't I?
 Trapped like a fly in the glue.
 You want to know about my game?
 Can't tell you – but how about a clue?

CHORUS Tell, tell, tell we ask and ask,
 Tell, tell, tell we say.
 Tell, tell, tell we want to know,
 The name of the game today.

MOM First things first – introductions. Only fair.
 I'm Daisy's Mom of course. You are? Put it there.
 For those I've never met before you might be quite confused,
 Why do these kids call out to me excited and amused,
 Wanting information about a game? So weird, right?
 It's got to do with the job I do, a job that you just might
 Find interesting if you have a tablet or smart phone
 Or if you have a Playstation or Xbox in your home.
 See, I make games.
 I make video games!
 I dream up the characters and I write the codes,
 And I know all the stories – I decide how it goes!
 A video game designer is what I am and what I do,
 And most of Daisy's classmates know; I think they think it's cool.
 They've played the games I've made before and seem to know them
 well,
 So when I'm out here with them they're always saying: "Tell!"
 Will I tell them my next game? Will I shine a light?

How will it be different? What exactly did I write?

Tell, tell, tell they ask and ask,
Tell, tell, tell they say.
Tell, tell, tell they want to know,
The name of the game today.

CHORUS Tell, tell, tell we ask and ask,
Tell, tell, tell we say.
Tell, tell, tell we want to know,
The name of the game today.

The thing about your games is they're not like any other,
And I don't just mean that they're made by our friend's mother.
See other games have guns and fights and lots and lots of splatter.
Or they're all about solving weird puzzles that don't really matter.
Or asking us to follow magic creatures in a wood,
Don't get us wrong they're not all bad, some of those are really good!
But your games are about us!
They tell our stories!
They talk about the lives us kids are living!
Our problems and our happiness and in a way they're giving
A chance to try the real out in a world that's really fake.
Their fun and interactive and oh for goodness sake
We've played the games you've made before and really know them well,
So when you're out here with us that's why we're saying: 'Tell!'
Will you tell us your next game? Will you shine a light?
How will it be different? What exactly did you write?

Tell, tell, tell we ask and ask,
Tell, tell, tell we say.
Tell, tell, tell we want to know,
The name of the game today.

MOM Tell, tell, tell you ask and ask,
Tell, tell, tell you say.
Tell, tell, tell you want to know,
The name of the game today.

Introductions over.
The scene has now been set.
You want to know about the game
I bet, I bet, I bet!

What can I do?
I did promise you.
I'd come through...
With a clue.

I don't tell lies,
Look into my eyes
And try this on
For size...

6. OMG! (AGAIN)

CHORUS Oh my goodness! Oh my dear!
 Can you believe what we're about to hear?
 Oh my goodness! Oh my zoo!
 We're about to get a clue!

7. THE CLUE

MOM My first game was a game about a girl with magic clothes
 She got in trouble left and right, and her name was Rose.
 An airplane flying little girl, the star of my next game
 Strong-headed, tough and always right – Violet was her name.
 Now if you've listened and you've heard, those names will give you
 power
 To figure out my next game's name must involve a...

CHORUS Flower!

MOM I couldn't possibly say. Now...

Roses are a lovely bloom their beauty warms the heart
So no surprise that *Rose's Clothes* - for a game - was a work of art.
Meanwhile Violet as a pilot whipped up a storm so wild!
So much fuss and interest for a flower that's so mild.
What about this next one then? Don't drive yourself too crazy.
In case you cannot tell by now this game involves a...

CHORUS Daisy!

MOM You said it...not me!

And now to work.

So, goodbye, goodbye children I can't linger, hang or stay
Tend those orchards lovingly and have a splendid day!

8. ONES AND ZEROS

CHORUS Oh my goodness! Oh boy, brother.
 Daisy, how is she your mother?

Oh my goodness! The world's all bent!
You two are so different!

She makes herself heard!
And seen!
You're quiet as a mouse.
Invisible as air.
You're night and day!
You're black and white!
You're...

DAISY Binary.

CHORUS What?

DAISY We're binary.

CHORUS What in the world is "binary?"

DAISY Binary means...opposites. Two things that are totally different. Like 1's and 0's.

CHORUS 1's and 0's aren't opposites!

DAISY Zero is nothing. One is something. Opposites.

CHORUS Huh.

So...binary's are opposites, like you and your Mom?

DAISY Yes.

CHORUS So, if she's number one, that means you're a...?

DAISY Zero.

CHORUS That's exactly what you are! A big zero!

9. YOU SEE

CHORUS So you see how it was
And you see how it is
Daisy's Mom is shaken pop
While Daisy's got no fizz
Daisy's Mom is birthday cake
And Daisy's birthday card
Daisy's Mom is chewing gum
While Daisy's gum gone hard.

But on their own and at their home
this doesn't really matter
What people say and people think
Is pointless empty chatter
When you care about a person
And that person loves you too
You can be like how you truly are
And do just as you do.

So you see how it is
And you see how it was
Daisy's Mom is colourful
But Daisy's great because
Daisy's Mom is like the sun
Her warmth and light do shine
And her quiet little flower
Can bask and be just fine.

And on their own and at their home
Their life was pretty sweet
Daisy coming home each day
To music and some treat
Usually covered
In colours of every kind
A smile upon our Daisy's face
Is what you'd always find.

So you see how it goes
You can see if you're able
Daisy's Mom at laptop screen
Daisy at the table
The two together work away
Well until twilight
Then hunker down and watch TV
Until they say goodnight.

So on their own and at their home
Everything was grand.
Yes it's just the two of them
But you must understand
They're a pair inseparable
Part them nothing will.
Not a single thing could trouble them.
No, nothing. Well. Until...

10. FADE OUT

CHORUS Okay. So.
One day – you know?
Daisy came home – you know?
And she found that – you know?
Her Mom just had less glow.

The colours were all there
The frizz was in her hair
But there just might be – no
A little fade - you know?

But Daisy brushed it off

DAISY It was nothing, just a trick.

CHORUS Of the light on her eyes
That would be over quick.

Okay. So.
Weeks pass – you know?
Daisy notices – you know?
Mom's work – you know?

DAISY Is moving pretty slow.

CHORUS Mom is sleeping in a lot
And sometimes there's just not
A lunch for Daisy – no
To take to school – you know?

Now Daisy shrugged it off

DAISY Yes some colour may have gone...

CHORUS But it was still her mother
And this couldn't last too long.

Okay. So.
One night – you know?
Daisy's upset – you know?
'Cause the whole day – you know?
Her Mom has been no show.

Shut up in her bedroom
Curtains drawn up all the way,
Nothing eaten, nothing spoken,
And her colour? Grey. Grey. Grey.

Then: we hear her say...

MOM Daisy?
 Come here.
 I don't know what's happening.
 I feel so...grey.
 You shouldn't have to deal with me.
 This way.
 Maybe...maybe you should go to your Dad's?
 Until I'm better.

DAISY My Dad's?

11. FATHER SONNET, ONE

CHORUS So here's the thing about Daisy's father:
 It's not like he's mean, it's not like he's bad
 He just can't take stress, bustle or bother;
 Loves peace and quiet – like daughter like dad.
 He lives in the country with his new wife,
 Who's quiet just like their two little boys.
 Quiet home, quiet job, that's his new life,
 Far away from the city and its noise.
 When Daisy comes it's a joyous event
 Her brothers adore her, father's all smiles
 They play and they eat and all is content
 On the farm in the field, nothing for miles.
 Yet with each day there, thoughts to Daisy come
 That nothing's the same as living with Mom.

12. ANOTHER BINARY

DAISY Another binary. This time a choice.
 Like 1 or 0.
 Like villain or hero.
 Like night or day.
 But what is this grey?

 The grey's in between.
 There but not seen.
 It's forcing me choose.
 Between lose and lose.

 It's a choice alright.
 Between black or white.
 Black: Speak up and stay?
 White: be quiet and...go away?

13. BLACK AND WHITE

CHORUS Now, Daisy's not the kind of kid to misbehave or disobey.
 So she listened very closely to what her mother had to say:

MOM I just don't know what's wrong with me I can barely lift my head
 It feels like one great struggle to just get out of bed.
 Don't want to see you pack your bags, don't want to see you go.
 But this is just not fair to you, my flower, and so...

I'm telling you in black and white
There's a chance that we just might
Have to do the thing we don't want to do
So let me lay it out in black and white
Sometimes some things aren't best but right
Which is why I say all of this to you...
It's a black and white decision.

CHORUS Of course her mother had a point, things were really rough
 But could Daisy go and leave her when the going now got tough?
 There must be a better way out of this situation
 Something more helpful than an open-end vacation
 What would Daisy's mother say if she wasn't feeling low?
 Her suggestion would be colourful and bright and light and so...

We can't see this in black and white
We have to plan so we just might
Avoid doing the thing we don't want to do
So let's move beyond the black and white
A rainbow's there for us alright
Now I know that this is truly what's true...
It's not a black and white decision.

If Daisy was to put things right she'd have to act quite fast
How much longer was the colour left in her mother gonna last?
And how much longer until she herself was sent off to the farm?
This was her time of action, this was her call to arms.
But action, speed and confidence for Daisy we all know
Was an effort and a change and challenge and so...

We're right back to the black and white
The likelihood is we just might
Have to do the thing we don't want to do
So we're drowning in the black and white
Only Daisy now can make things right
But to speak would be something so new...
Will it be black?

Will it be white?
Is it wrong,
If you can't do right?
It's...a grey area.

14. FADE IN

CHORUS Okay. So.
 Daisy's there – you know?
 Kinda stuck – you know?
 We know she knows – you know?
 She should go and get a pro.

 She should summon up some brave
 Go and get someone to save
 Her mother and presto!
 Her duty's done – you know?

 But Daisy is so timid
 If she did know who to seek
 How would she ask them for their help
 If she could not even speak?

 Ok. So.
 She's thinking this – you know?
 When she sees there – you know?
 The laptop screen – you know?
 Fade in and start to glow.

 It's her Mom's computer yet
 Time to time on internet
 Daisy is allowed to go
 And maybe this time, well – you know?

 Online there is everything
 Any answer in a blink
 If this could help her mother
 She should do it, don't you think?

 Okay. So.
 She walks up – you know?
 She sits down – you know?
 The mouse moves – you know?
 And computer says:

INTERNET Hello.

CHORUS Now Daisy finds a voice.

It's clear she's made a choice.
Through typing she can show
How she can help – you know?

So she types in her words
She types them strong and slow
She says hello right back
And what happens, well...you know...

DAISY Hello?

15. OMG! (AGAIN)

CHORUS Oh my goodness! OMG!
 Look what you've done Daisy!
 Oh my Venus! Oh Jupiter!
 Daisy's on her Mom's computer!

16. PASSWORD

INTERNET Hello. I am The Internet.

DAISY My name is Daisy.

INTERNT Girl you sit before me a stranger of young age
 I know you not yet here you are; you wish to view a page.
 But first there is a thing to do of which you've surely heard
 Enter into this box the accurate password.

DAISY Password?

What what what
What could it be?
Think think think
It's not easy.

Come on Daisy, you should know this. What does Mom like? She
likes...colour!

C-O-L-O-U-R

INTERNET Incorrect. Try again.

DAISY Um...well...then...

INTERNET I see you pause. I see you wait. I see you sit and think.
 The time I have is infinite I need not eat or drink.

I need no love or friendship; no sleep or exercise.
So take your time considering. You've got two more tries.

DAISY The password?

What what what
What could it be?
Think think think
It's not easy.

Come on Daisy, there's only two more tries. What does Mom do? She makes...games!

G-A-M-E-S

INTERNET Incorrect. Try again.

DAISY Oh...well...then...

INTERNET And now we reach the moment of your third and final guess,
You may well be feeling it but I do not know stress.
I know not wrong. I know not right. I know not bad or good.
I just await the password. Time to type it if you could.

DAISY The password.

What what what
What could it be?
Think think think
It's not easy.

Come on Daisy, there's only one more try. What does Mom love? She loves...

She loves me. Doesn't she?

D-A-I-S-Y

INTERNET Correct. Welcome.

17. INTERNET

INTERNET Welcome to the internet!
Knowledge here abounds!
Come in to the internet!
Answers always found!

Learn about mathematics!

Learn about kangaroos!
Learn how to fold origami!
Or anything you choose!

Welcome to the internet!
Questions? Ask away!
Here in the internet
Everyone has a say!

Invent an answer!
Buy a cowboy hat!
Watch Swedish hockey!
Or a video of a cat!

Welcome to the internet!
The world within our world!
So careful on the internet!
All you boys and girls!

The world is just people!
People cruel or nice!
Online you can't tell who's who!
Watch out is my advice!

Welcome to the internet!
The magic of our age!
All hail to the internet!
And every webpage!

What is it you search for?
No need to leave your chair!
May not be the truth you find
But you found it so who cares?

Welcome to the internet!
Just sit there on your perch!
Good luck on the internet!
Time to type in your search!

18. OMG! (AGAIN)

CHORUS Oh goodness! Oh my wow!
 Daisy's really done it now!
 Oh my goodness! Oh my pet!
 Daisy's on the internet!

19. FIRST SEARCH

INTERNET Tell me: what are you looking for?

DAISY Well, internet, my mother isn't...she's lost her colour.

INTERNET And?

DAISY She sleeps a lot.

INTERNET And?

DAISY She doesn't laugh any more.

INTERNET And?

DAISY And I want to help.

INTERNET Searching. Okay. Lots of information.
Here's what I say.
There are three possibilities
When someone's feeling grey.
First, you can try talking
To an expert who just might
Use their words to get her colour
To a normal type of bright.
If that one fails your
Second stop should be medicine
The correct pills and tablets
Might just make her right again.
Choice number three is strange
It may leave you at a loss
So if we end up at that bridge
Then that's the time to cross.

Would you like to click the first option?

DAISY The talking one?

INTERNET Mmm huh. Do you?

DAISY Yes but talking...to who?

INTERNET Enter in this chat room
For an answer to the 'who?'
There's a really quite good talker
Waiting to talk to you.

DAISY Okay.

CHORUS Oh my goodness! Oh my Dad!
 What Daisy's doing is really bad!
 Oh my goodness! Oh ka-boom!
 Daisy's gone in a chat room!

20. TALKER DOCTOR

INTERNET You are now in the chat room.

DAISY Hello...?

TALKER DOCTOR

Hey! I'm the Talker Doctor thanks for reaching out you star,
Look I am here to help you! What's the story like so far?
Are you happy? Are you sad? Are you feeling other?
You know what, forget all that: tell me about your mother.

DAISY I –

TALKER DOCTOR

On second thought, forget that too – not 'forget' let's set aside –
I should tell you what I do do first then you can decide
If my expertise will help you – please – I do not want to smother
With over-information. Now, let's talk about your mother.

DAISY You –

TALKER DOCTOR

Oh yes of course, oh ha ha ha, that's right I said let's wait!
Curiosity gets the best of me and man do I just hate
When people run their mouth off it annoys me like no other
Thing in the world. Where were we now? (*Remembers.*) Talking about
your mother!

DAISY No –

TALKER DOCTOR

Oh shucks! Oh darn! What's up with me? There I go again.
I'm blurting out these blurbs like ink that's flowing from a pen.
I'm blowing out these blarbs like blowy snowy blother
But I am listening I promise; tell me about your mother.

DAISY Well –

TALKER DOCTOR

Let's talk about your childhood; you tell me how you're feeling;

What does this blot remind you of? Do you find it appealing?
Does it look like cloudy skies? What about your brother?
What about the family dog? Does it remind you of your mother?

DAISYIt –

TALKER DOCTOR

I have a mother too you know so of course I can relate
To whatever your problem is – in fact did you yet state
The reason you are here at all? It's time we did uncover
The root of your real issues: I bet it is your mother.

DAISYShe's –

TALKER DOCTOR

I bet I can unearth it. I bet I figure it out.
I bet we'd get to the bottom of things if you'd speak or shout.
If you could say a word or two between us one another
Then you could let me know if we should talk about your mother.

DAISYI'm –

TALKER DOCTOR

See I'm a Talker Doctor! If you don't talk this doesn't fly
And I am like a kite that cannot get up in the sky,
I am like a tent without a person who needs cover.
So from this Talker Doctor please: tell me about your mother!

DAISYTalker Doctor can you please just for a moment stop or pause,
I'd like to tell you everything but it's difficult because
The situation I am in is unlike any other.
The problem isn't me you see; the problem *is* my mother.

TALKER DOCTOR

What? What? What? Come again my girl? What was that you say?

DAISYThe reason I am reaching out is because my Mom's all grey.

TALKER DOCTOR

What? What? What? Say again? What is that you utter?

DAISYThe problem isn't me you see; the problem is my mother.

TALKER DOCTOR

Ah. Well. This here Talker Doctor? I can only offer service
To the grey one. (Not saying you don't deserve this.)
So hand your Mom the keyboard and I'm sure she will recover
As quick as quick can be; once I'm talking to your mother.

(Pause.)

DAISYTalker Doctor sorry for the silence and delay

I showed my Mom your messages but she pushed them away

I do not think she wants to talk to you or any other

There must be ways around this so that you can help my mother?

TALKER DOCTOR

Girl you shouldn't worry about your silence and delay

The truth is that there's a big fat nothing I can say

Which for a Talker Doctor is quite a big fat bother.

But if she won't talk there's not a lot I can do to help your mother.

Thanks for checking me out, though! Thanks for checking in!

I hope you have an awesome day! Swing on by again!

I hope you think of me next time and do not choose another!

No one beats this Talker Doctor – not even your mother!

Not even your teacher! Not even you friends!

Not even a scientist with pockets full of pens!

I'm not even better than myself I have discovered...

No. No one beats this Talker Doctor – not even your mother!

21. OMG! (AGAIN)

CHORUS Oh my goodness! Oh my years!

That guy talked off Daisy's ears!

Then - oh my goodness! Oh ka-blur!

He closed up that chat room on her!

22. SECOND SEARCH

INTERNET Hello again. Tell me: what are you looking for?

DAISYThe Talker Doctor. That was kind of lame.

INTERNET And?

DAISYMy mother. She's still the same.

INTERNET And?

DAISYI want to...I want to search again.

INTERNET And?

DAISYI want to know about medicine.

INTERNET Searching. Okay. Lots of information.
Here's what I say
If you want medicine
When someone's feeling grey.
Chemistry is one big maze
That you will need to enter
So find yourself a trusty guide
To get you to the centre.
You must turn now to the experts
Who possess a science flare.
Only they have got the map
That for sure gets you there.
Only they have got the wisdom
For your epic quest.
And all you have to do
Is pass one tiny simple test.

Would you like to click option two?

DAISY There's a test to do?

INTERNET Yes. That's true.

DAISY A test by...who?

INTERNET Post on this message board
For an answer to the 'who?'
Chemical professionals
Will post right back to you.

DAISY Okay.

23. OMG! (AGAIN)

CHORUS Oh my goodness! Oh my stewing!
Check out what she's online doing!
Oh my goodness! Oh my sword!
Daisy's on a message board!

24. THE PHARMAQUIZZICLES

INTERNET You are now on the message board.

DAISY Hello? Can anyone help? My mother's all grey.

PHARMAQUIZZICLES

Sit back relax and let worries dissolve and escape you.
We bring the facts – sharp as tacks – we won't let them break you.
This is perceiving.
This is perceiving.
The truth can be found – it abounds – it's inside and around you.
Microscope sights and test tube delights are the sounds you...
Are now receiving.
Are now receiving.
Tell us what's wrong, know there is not a song that we can't sing.
Chemical tunes in a key just for you s'what we're off'ring.
Are you now seeing?
Are you now seeing?

DAISYWho are you?

What can you do?

PHARMAQUIZZICLES

Girl, sit you down.
And hear all this sound.

Of the Pharmaquizzicles
The Pharmaquizzicles.

Sit back relax pay attention to what we have to say.
We understand someone so close at hand has gone grey.
This is just living.
This is just living.
With chemistry combined and refined we can make a pill
To fix any pain, ache or sprain that might make you feel ill.
This is us giving.
This is us giving.
'Giving' not quite – there just might – well, of course there is a cost
It's small, won't at all feel like you have anything lost.
We are forgiving.
We are forgiving.

DAISYWho are you?

What should I do?

PHARMAQUIZZICLES

Girl, sit you here.
For this sound you hear.

Are the Pharmaquizzicles
The Pharmaquizzicles.

Sit back relax here's the facts all about your task
The tablets we sell make you well and now you will ask

How are we testing?
How are we testing?
Here's how you pay. There's a riddle we say. Give your reply,
Then these jewels are yours – just get the right scores. Do you dare try?
Are you stressing?
Are you stressing?
Answer us this: what can't be stopped or missed? It does not care.
Goes round and around, with no sound, yet it is everywhere.
What are you guessing?
What are you guessing?

DAISY What do I say?
To this riddle today?

PHARMAQUIZZICLES

(Gestures to the audience.) Maybe your guests
Can help with a guess?

For the Pharmaquizzicles
The Pharmaquizzicles.

Sit back relax here's a clue that may help you on your way:
This thing passes by, it flies, never dies – what do you say?
Are you knowing?
Are you knowing?
Your watch knows it well a clock can help tell this thing's story,
Even your phone when it's on can reveal all its glory.
It's always going.
It's always going.
Come have a try say goodbye to these pills if you can't find
The answer my dear, it's so clear, you must know that it is...

DAISY Time!

PHARMAQUIZZICLES

You are knowing.
You are knowing.

DAISY 'Time' is my guess.
To pass this test.

PHARMAQUIZZICLES

Correct! Rejoice!
Now tell us your choice.

Of the Pharmaquizzicles.
The Pharmaquizzicles.

Sit back relax tell your doctor we recommend this pill.

She'll give it to Mom. Let time run. Then we'll see if she's still ill.
We'll be waiting.
We'll be waiting.

DAISY Hang on – we wait? That's not great, how long do we wait still?

PHARMAQUIZZICLES

Three months or two that should do to know if some new pill
Will be needed.
Will be needed.

DAISY Three months? That's no good, misunderstood how this goes
Can't it be more fast? Mom's colour won't last past tomorrow.

PHARMAQUIZZICLES

Can't be changed.
Can't be changed.

DAISY What do I do?

I have no clue.

PHARMAQUIZZICLES

Sit back relax
These are the facts...

Of the Pharmaquizzicles.
The Pharmaquizzicles.

25. OMG! (AGAIN)

CHORUS Oh my goodness! Oh my date!
 Daisy doesn't have time to wait!
 Oh my goodness! Oh my kelp!
 That message board wasn't any help!

26. THIRD SEARCH

DAISY Hello? Internet?

INTERNET Tell me: what are you looking for?

DAISY The Pharmaquizzicles. They were less than kind.

INTERNET And?

DAISY My mother. She's running out of time.

INTERNET And?

DAISY I want a search of number three.

INTERNET And?

DAISY I want to know what last time you wouldn't show me.

INTERNET Searching. Okay. Lots of information.
Here's what I say:
There is a third option
When someone's feeling grey.
It's not easy or for sure,
It's not medically tested,
But it's also not illegal
So it won't get you arrested.
What it does require
Is that you reach inside yourself
And find a kind of magic
To help your mother back to health
Drawing strength up from the ground below
And the sky above
Gift this to the colourless:
Give her all your love.

Would you like to click option three?

DAISY But Internet I... I already give all my love to my Mom.

INTERNET If you don't like this result option simply delete me.

DAISY No! Give more love? I don't know where to start.

INTERNET What about your heart?

DAISY My...heart. Okay.

27. OMG! (AGAIN)

CHORUS Oh my goodness! Oh my shoe!
Is there anything that we can do?
Oh my goodness! Oh let's start!
Let's help Daisy give more heart!

28. HEART

(Using illusion of some kind, DAISY appears to reach into her chest to grab her own heart.)

CHORUS *(Chanting; encouraging the audience.)* Come on Daisy you can do it
Now just look within.
Find more love inside yourself
Don't let the greyness win.

(The above is repeated again and again until DAISY produces a piece of her heart.)

DAISY Mom! Look! More love! You must feel better now?

29. TIME TO CALL

MOM Daisy, I've seen you trying
Everything that you could try.
I'm so proud, I really am,
So much that I could cry.

But this greyness that I'm feeling
Just cannot be fought.
I can't talk to talker doctors,
I don't want some tablets bought.

I just want this cloud to lift,
My old life back to live.
But you can't fix what's happening
No matter how much love you give.

The internet has good bits.
Some bits are not so nice.
You should never tear your heart out;
That was the worst advice.

I know you love me dearly.
Know I love you too.
But it's time to call your father.
Should I? Or will you?

30. FATHER SONNET, TWO

CHORUS So here's the thing about Daisy's father:
He is really kind although he lives far.
When Daisy called all he said? "No bother."
And drove all the way right then in his car.
In no time he's there, a hand free to lend.

He asks how to help and hugs Daisy's Mom.
He fills up the fridge and calls her best friend.
And when they leave things are quiet and calm.
Back at her Dad's Daisy falls into bed,
Casting a weight off her shoulders away,
She thought she'd feel sad but somehow instead,
Things are okay now: it's better this way.
Still with each day there, thoughts to Daisy come
That one day she'll be back living with Mom.

31. OMG! (AGAIN)

CHORUS Oh goodness! Oh my pad!
 Now Daisy's living with her Dad!
 Oh my goodness! Oh I say!
 She emails mother every day!

32. <3

DAISYHi Mom
 Just a little message from me
 To let you know I'm doing fine
 I've settled in okay I guess
 - highlight underline -
 The boys are lots of fun
 It's hard to keep up with their paces
 They're almost as big as me now
 - emoji laughing faces -
 I'm learning how to milk a cow!
 Need more practice til I'm better.
 But did you ever dream I would?
 - typed in capital letters -
 Well that is all my news I think
 It's time I should depart.
 I hope you've got some colour back?
 - an on-its-side heart -
 Daisy.

Hi Mom
This week I started school
That was pretty scary
But they treated me like a celebrity
- emoji dancing fairy -
Because nobody knew me
My story was untold
So I thought I better tell it
- highlight select bold -

I'm still not great at talking
But nobody seems to mind
They're polite, they wait for me,
They're – dot dot dot – kind.
Well that is all my news I think
It's time I should depart.
Are you getting any colour back?
- an on-its-side heart -
Daisy.

Hi Mom
Haven't heard from you yet
Which totally makes sense
You need time to feel better
- italic last sentence –
Life here just gets better
And I see the half-full cup
I feel a lot less shy now
- emoji with thumbs up –
I've started feeding chickens
They recognise my call
And when they all come running
It totally makes me – LOL –
Well that is all my news I think
It's time I should depart.
Maybe you could write me back?
- an on-its-side heart -
Daisy

Hi Mom
Dad came up and asked today
To chat in a quiet place.
– TBH – I was so worried
– sideways frowning face –
He talked about these emails
The ones that I've been sending
He wasn't mad or angry!
– exclamation on the ending –
He explained about your silence
To settle down my fears
He said your grey is still there
- emoji crying tears -
But he also said we'll visit you!
So we're not too long apart.
I cannot wait to see you soon
- an on-its-side heart –
Daisy

PS

Being at my Dad's is great
I'm a pro on farming tips
But maybe when I visit you
- Emoji finger lips -
Maybe when I visit you
I could stay behind?
That is what I'd really like
- Highlight and underline -
I don't want to rush you
Or put the horse before the cart
I guess I just would like again
A right-side-up heart.

33. OMG! (AGAIN)

CHORUS Oh my goodness! Oh my name!
Replies to those emails never came!
But oh my goodness! Look at that!
Mom's invited her to chat!

34. CHAT

MOM Daisy are you there?

DAISY Mom! You're online!
I knew I'd hear from you again.
Does this mean you're now fine?

MOM Daisy I'm so sorry
It's been months now since you moved.

DAISY Oh, don't worry Mom 'bout that
Are you feeling much improved?
Do you have any colour?
Do you have any glow?
Do you have any lightness?

MOM In truth? The answer's no.
I have been getting out of bed
I've been doing basic stuff

DAISY Are you working on your game?

MOM That work is too too tough.
I see a Talker Doctor now

DAISY Oh goodness, the same one?!?

MOM No, no, no – no, not at all
 A gentle, friendly one.
 She's said that getting better
 It can take a time that's long

DAISY You mean longer still?

MOM I do. I want her to be wrong.

 But I think she might be right.

 So I thought I'd tell you flower
 What is up before your visit.
 Nobody likes disappointment,
 It's not a nice thing, is it?

DAISY Disappointment?

MOM Yes.
 I am afraid to say
 The chances are that
 When you visit...you can't stay.

DAISY Oh.

MOM I know.

DAISY But so much time...

MOM Even so.
 This new Talker Doctor
 She's been helpful all the same
 She had a great suggestion
 Since I can't work on my game.
 Because I dream up fantasies
 One way to fight the grey
 Is to write down this here story
 So I wrote it as a play.

 I gave it to some actors
 And they performed the show.
 It helps explain the greyness
 To those who might not know.

DAISY This play. Am I in it?

MOM You are indeed.
 You're the hero.

DAISY In the end, do I succeed?

MOM You know my games were different?
I tried to make them real.
I believed the closer to the truth
The more the players feel.
My play is the same you see.

DAISY So it's not a happy ending?

MOM We don't know, do we?
And I won't start pretending.

The audience decides
About the ending of my play.
Is it good? Is it bad?
They have the final say.

DAISY So it's another binary?
It's either white or black?

MOM The magic of the theatre
Means there's way more choices than that.

DAISY Mom. Are you saying I shouldn't visit?
Is that what's this about?

MOM Daisy, no! The opposite.
Come. And we'll figure it out.

CHORUS Oh my goodness! Oh my crown!
Daisy's heading back to town!
Oh my goodness! Oh my zappen!
I wonder what is going to happen?

35. BLACK AND WHITE (REPRISE)

CHORUS Now when mother sees her daughter on the visit of that day

MOM I can't believe my own eyes, I'm almost blown away.
The Daisy that's in front of me is a flower in full bloom.
Glowing happiness enough to shoo away most of the glooms.

CHORUS But the gloom that's grey is heavy over Daisy's Mom we know,
It'll take more than a smiling girl to make it leave and so...

MOM I'm telling you in black and white

CHORUS There's a chance that she just might

MOM Have to do the thing she won't want to do

CHORUS & MOM

So let's lay it out in black and white
Sometimes somethings aren't best but right
Which is why we say this to you...
It's a black and white decision.

CHORUS When Daisy hears this news we know it must be hard to take.

DAISY And in the past I would've melted like a hot snowflake
But sitting there in front of Mom who's head to toe all grey
I simply smile and nod my head and say it's all okay

CHORUS Daisy's strong enough to wait some more, she's stronger now we know;
She's travelled down the path this far so she can walk some more...

DAISY It's not exactly black and white
Right now I know that I just might
Have to do the things I do not want to do

CHORUS & DAISY

But that doesn't make it black and white
A rainbow's there for us alright
Behind the cloud the sky is still blue...
It's no black and white decision.

CHORUS Now Daisy's mother sees her daughter in a whole way.
The difference is so obvious that she just has to say:

MOM Daisy you've amazed me with all you've done and said,
You've gone from a wallflower to holding up your head.

CHORUS And as her mother says this there's the faintest slightest glow
Could it be? Do we see? A hint of colour? So...

ALL There's hope beyond the black and white
Sometime soon now we just might
Not have to do the thing we don't want to do
We're moving past the black and white.

DAISY I maybe couldn't make it right

MOM But you showed that when you do all you can do...

ALL It's not just black.

It's not just white.
Things get tough
But that's just life.
Find your voice.
And have your say.
Welcome colour.
Wave grey away.
It's not just white.
It's not just black.
Things get tough
But life's like that.
Find your voice.
And have your say.
Welcome colour.
Wave grey away!

End of play.