

WHEN I GROW UP

An EPmusic Musical



By Elisa Polimeni-Das

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Synopsis

“What do you want to be when you grow up?” is a question that is often asked of children. But Ashley doesn’t know how to answer. At twelve years old, Ashley is under pressure from her parents and teachers to choose a career path that she can work towards.

After receiving a less than satisfactory school report one term, Ashley’s Dad decides to take her out into the ‘real world’ to snap her out of her day-dreaming and help her find her niche.

Join Ashley on her journey to self-discovery, where she will meet less-than-honest lawyers, trustworthy teachers, drama-queen doctors, a polite and polished plumber and many more colourful characters along the way. Will Ashley discover where she belongs? Or will she be doomed to a life of underachieving? Find out in the hilarious comedy drama: *When I Grow Up*.

Moral: Take your time to find out who you are. Everyone is unique, and we all discover our strengths at different times in our lives.

Cast List

An asterisk (*) indicates that this character ALSO has a vocal solo. Names and gender can be changed if necessary.

	<i>Character</i>	<i>Number of lines</i>
1.	Ashley *	83
2.	Dad*	39
3.	Mum*	20
4.	Kate (Sister)	3
5.	Mark (Brother)	4
6.	Mrs Woods (Teacher) *	15
7.	Mr William Fibb (Lawyer) *	6
8.	Judge Judy	8
9.	Robyn Banks (Vandal) *	2
10.	Doctor Pepper *	12
11.	Doctor Jekyll (Surgeon) *	11
12.	Nurse Payne *	8
13.	Patient	1
14.	Eugene (IT guy) *	10
15.	Sheldon (IT guy) *	8
16.	Sergeant Smith *	10
17.	Constable Jones *	5
18.	Constable Tiny *	4
19.	Fred (Plumber) *	20
20.	Ginger (Apprentice)	3
21.	Captain Bob *	10
22.	Paul the Parrot	4
23.	First Mate	1
24.	Sarah *	1
25.	Johnny *	1
26.	Rachel *	1
27.	Student 1	1
28.	Student 2	1
29.	Student 3	1
30.	Student 4	1
31.	Student 5	1

Character Descriptions

*Names and genders can be easily changed if necessary.

Ashley - lead character with one vocal solo. Must have strong acting and singing skills.

Dad - overbearing, dramatic and hard to please. Strong acting skills required.

Mum - caring and understanding.

Kate (Sister) - minor role.

Mark (Brother) - minor role.

Mrs Woods (Teacher) - firm but fair teacher. Vocal solo.

Mr William Fibb (Lawyer) - Smarmy and smug. Vocal solo.

Judge Judy - Tough and quick to anger.

Robyn Banks (Vandal) - minor acting role, ability for physical comedy required, minor vocal solo.

Doctor Pepper - comedic role. Over confident and cocky. Minor vocal solo.

Doctor Jekyll (Surgeon) - arrogant and self-important. Minor vocal solo.

Nurse Payne – No-nonsense nurse.

Patient - lies on operating table. Wakes up during surgery.

Eugene (IT guy) - comedic role. Nerdy sci-fi fan. Minor vocal solo or duet.

Sheldon (IT guy) - comedic role. Nerdy sci-fi fan. Minor vocal solo or duet.

Sergeant Smith – Officer in charge with a ‘gangster’ attitude. Minor vocal solo (rap only).

Constable Jones - Officer with a ‘gangster’ attitude. Minor vocal solo (rap only).

Constable Tiny - comedic role. Constantly eating Krispy Kremes. Minor vocal solo (rap only).

Fred (Plumber) - polite and polished plumber. Strong acting and singing skills required. Some physical comedy. Vocal solo.

Ginger (Apprentice) - clumsy, bumbling and always late. Minor role.

Captain Bob - comedic role. A wise, old pirate with a fun, relaxed attitude.

Paul the Parrot – minor comedic role.

First Mate - minor role

Sarah - minor role. Vocal solo.

Johnny - minor role. Vocal solo.

Rachel - minor role. Vocal solo.

Students 1-5 – minor roles. Could be students from class chorus if desired.

Musical Numbers

Music and lyrics by Elisa Polimeni-Das

1. *The Whole World at My Fingertips*

Introduction led by Sarah, Johnny, Rachel with lead cast chorus

2. *If I'm Just Me*

Ashley

3. *Bend the Truth*

Led by Mr. William Fibb and Robyn Banks

4. *Keep Them in Line*

Led by Mrs Woods

5. *Don't Drop the Scalpel*

Led by Dr Pepper, Dr Jekyll and Nurse Payne

6. *I Know What's Best*

Dad, Ashley and Mum

7. *Turn it Off and On*

Led by Eugene and Sheldon

Original version of this song was entitled *Ctrl Alt Del*. Contact EPmusic (epmusicmail@gmail.com) for more information.

8. *We're the Police*

Led by Sergeant Smith, Constable Jones and Constable Tiny

9. *Plumbing Week to Week*

Led by Fred

10. *The Deep Blue Sea*

Led by Captain Bob

11. *The Whole World at Your Fingertips*

Led by Sarah and Rachel (optional) with Whole School chorus

Sets/Props

Sets

As there are many different settings in this musical we recommend the use of the digital backdrops provided.

Props

Scene 1

- Whiteboard

Scene 2

- 3 school reports

Scene 3

- Judge's stand
- Judge's gavel
- Handcuffs

Scene 4

- Whiteboard
- Whiteboard marker

Scene 5

- Operating table
- Scalpel attached to fishing wire

Scene 6

- 3 desks/OR one long trestle table
- 3 chairs
- 3 laptops
- 2 phones

Scene 7

- Donuts
- Spray can

Scene 8

- Plumbers manual
- Toilet
- Plunger

Scene 9

- 3 floral leis

Scene 10

- Conductor's baton
- 5 single roses

Costume Suggestions

The following are suggestions based on the costumes that were used in the first production of 'When I Grow Up'.

Ashley - Green t-shirt, jeans

Dad - Suit and tie

Mum - White shirt, black mid-length skirt

Kate (Sister) - Casual dress (or school uniform)

Mark (Brother) - Tracksuit (or PE uniform)

Mrs Woods (Teacher) - White shirt, long grey skirt

Mr William Fibb (Lawyer) - Suit and tie

Judge Judy - Black gown, traditional judge's wig

Robyn Banks (Vandal) - Ripped jeans, t-shirt

Doctor Pepper - Lab coat, stethoscope

Doctor Jekyll - Scrubs

Nurse Payne - Scrubs

Patient - Hospital gown

Eugene (IT guy) - Knitted jumper, glasses

Sheldon (IT guy) - Shirt, suspenders

Sergeant Smith - Police uniform

Constable Jones - Police uniform

Constable Tiny - Police uniform

Fred (Plumber) - Khaki overalls, white t-shirt, hard hat

Ginger (Apprentice) - Black overalls, white t-shirt, hard hat

Captain Bob - Pirate attire eg. Yellow puffy satin shirt, eye patch, black vest, black ripped jeans, bare feet

Paul the Parrot - Colourful bird costume

First Mate - White top, white pants, blue neckerchief, sailor's hat

Sarah - Yellow t-shirt, jeans (or school uniform)

Johnny - Purple t-shirt, jeans (or school uniform)

Rachel – Red t-shirt, jeans (or school uniform)

Class chorus number suggestions

The following are suggestions for the class chorus numbers. Feel free to make changes as needed.

The Whole World at My Fingertips

Lead Cast OR could also work for Year 1's or Year 2's

If I'm Just Me

Year 3's or Year 4's

All in black, interpretative movement to Ashley's thoughts

Bend the Truth

Year 5's or Year 6's

Black tops, black pants/leggings, pink sequined skirts or bowties

Keep them in Line

Year 3's or Year 4's

School uniform with a stage touch eg. sequined head bands or bowties

Don't Drop the Scalpel

Choir OR Year 3 – 6 chorus

Hospital gowns or scrubs

Turn it Off and On

Year 3 - 6 chorus

Black tops, black pants/leggings, blue sequined skirts or bowties

We're the Police

Year 5's or Year 6's

Black tops, black pants/leggings, police hats

Plumbing Week to Week

Year 1's or Year 2's

White t-shirts/singlets, jeans, yellow hard hats

The Deep Blue Sea

Prep

White tops, white pants/leggings, blue neckerchiefs, sailor's hats

The Whole World at Your Fingertips (Finale)

Whole Cast

When I Grow Up

By EPmusic

Scene 1

Track 1: Opening Music (as curtains open)

Backdrop 1: Classroom setting

MRS WOODS: What would you like to be when you grow up? Sarah?

SARAH: An astronaut!

MRS WOODS: Very good. And what would you like to be, Johnny?

JOHNNY: A fireman!

MRS WOODS: Fantastic. And you, Rachel?

RACHEL: A CEO.

MRS WOODS: Excellent. And what about you, Ashley? Ashley?

Ashley looks up and shrugs.

MRS WOODS: Ashley, you must have some aspirations for your future?

ASHLEY: Um... I don't know... I—

Track 2: School Bell

MRS WOODS: Ok boys and girls have a wonderful afternoon! And don't forget your reports!

Backdrop 2: Sunny day

Track 3/Song 1:

THE WHOLE WORLD AT MY FINGERTIPS

Sarah, Johnny, Rachel and lead cast ensemble

SARAH

VERSE 1

WELL I JUST FINISHED SCHOOL TODAY
AND I'M AS HAPPY AS CAN BE
I KNOW JUST WHAT I WANT TO DO
AND MY WHOLE LIFE'S IN FRONT OF ME
I'M GOING TO BE AN ASTRONAUT
AND FLY UP INTO SPACE
I KNOW IT WON'T BE EASY
BUT IT'S A CHALLENGE I CAN FACE

ENSEMBLE **CHORUS**
I'VE GOT THE WHOLE WORLD AT MY FINGERTIPS
THERE'S NOTHING THAT I CAN'T DO
I'VE GOT THE WILL, THE WAY, THE DRIVE AND ONE DAY I
WILL MAKE ALL MY DREAMS COME TRUE

JOHNNY **VERSE 2**
I'M GOING TO BE A FIREMAN
I'VE KNOWN SINCE I WAS THREE
I'M GOING TO HELP SAVE PEOPLE
AND RESCUE CATS FROM TREES
I KNOW THIS IS MY CALLING
TO HELP THOSE IN NEED
I'M SURE IT WON'T BE EASY
BUT I KNOW I WILL SUCCEED

ENSEMBLE **CHORUS**

RACHEL **VERSE 3**
I'M GOING TO BE THE CEO
OF A MASSIVE COMPANY
IF YOU WANT A PAY RISE
YOU'LL HAVE TO COME TO ME
I KNOW IT WILL BE HARD WORK
BUT I'M NEVER GOING TO STOP
I'M STARTING FROM THE BOTTOM
AND I'LL MAKE IT TO THE TOP

ENSEMBLE **CHORUS X 2**
MAKE ALL MY DREAMS
MAKE ALL MY DREAMS COME TRUE

Scene 2

Ashley and her brother (Mark) and sister (Kate) are walking home from their last day of school all holding their report cards. Ashley is looking upset.

MARK: Check out the grade I got for P.E!

KATE: Not as good as the one I got for Maths. What's wrong, Ashley? Didn't you get a good report?

ASHLEY: No, it's terrible. Mum and Dad are not going to be happy.

MARK: Well they'll be happy that two out of three of their children aren't complete failures.

Mark and Kate hi-5 each other and laugh.

Enter family home.

Backdrop 3: Home setting

MUM: Hi kids. How was the last day of school?

KATE: Great! I got the best report from _____ (insert classroom teacher's name).

DAD: And what about you, Mark?

MARK: Awesome! _____ (insert P.E teacher's name) says I'll make the state soccer team for sure.

Ashley is hiding her report card and trying to go unnoticed.

MUM: Ash? Let's have a look at your report then...

Ashley reluctantly hands her report to Mum. Mum and Dad both read.

DAD: Mark and Kate, we need to have a private word with your sister.

MARK AND KATE: Oh, but Dad –

MUM: Off you go!

Mark and Kate leave the room but listen in at the door.

DAD: (*reads*) "Ashley is easily distracted in class and finds it difficult to focus on any given task. She can often be found humming absent-mindedly whilst staring out a window..." - What is this all about, Ashley?

ASHLEY: I try to pay attention Dad but everything is just so –

MUM: Difficult?

DAD: Challenging?

ASHLEY: Boring.

DAD: So, what do you plan to do with your life, Ashley?

ASHLEY: I don't know, Dad. I'm twelve.

DAD: Well that is just not good enough! This is the problem with kids today, no discipline. When I was your age, I was half way through law school. And by the time I was 16, I had won my first case. Your mother knew she wanted to be a teacher when she was three years old!

MUM: She just hasn't discovered what she is good at yet. Have you, Ash?

DAD: Well starting tomorrow she's going to find out. This week we're taking you to find out what hard work is all about starting at my office. You'll need to be up bright and early – it's going to be a long day.

Dad exits.

ASHLEY: Some week this is going to be...

MUM: Cheer up, Ash. You never know, you might even enjoy it. I'll have a word with your father. He only wants the best for you, you know.

ASHLEY: Thanks, Mum.

Mum exits.

Start Track 4

Backdrop 4: Night setting

Dialogue continues over music.

ASHLEY: What if I never find out what I'm good at? Or who I'm supposed to be? What if I'm just... me?

**Track 4/Song 2:
IF I'M JUST ME**

ASHLEY

VERSE 1

WELL I DON'T KNOW
WHAT TO DO WITH MYSELF
BUT WHY SHOULD I?
I'M ONLY TWELVE
THEY HAVE HIGH HOPES
MY MUM AND DAD
AND ALL I WANT
IS TO MAKE THEM PROUD

CHORUS

WHAT AM I GOING TO BE?
THEY KEEP ON ASKING
IS IT OK IF I'M JUST ME?
I SAY

VERSE 2

THE KIDS AT SCHOOL
THEY SEEM TO KNOW
WHO THEY ARE
AND WHERE THEY'LL GO
AND HERE I AM
SO UNPREPARED
IT MAKES ME FEEL
A LITTLE SCARED NOT KNOWING...

CHORUS

VERSE 3

AND SO, I'LL TRY
TO FIND MY PLACE
TO DO MY BEST
AND WIN MY RACE
I WILL SEARCH
HIGH AND LOW
THOUGH IT SEEMS LIKE I
MIGHT NEVER KNOW

CHORUS X 2

Second time instead of 'I say' repeat IF I'M JUST ME

Blackout.

SAMPLE