Lilly's Big Day

A MUSICAL ADAPTATION OF
LILLY'S BIG DAY
BY KEVIN HENKES

BOOK & LYRICS BY DAVID LEE
MUSIC BY RON PASSARO

Actor/Character Breakdown:

Woman 1 – Lilly
Woman 2 – Mother, Student
Woman 3 – Usher, Student 2
Woman 4 – Student 3

Man 1 – Mr. Slinger
Man 2 – Father, Student 1

Author Bios:

DAVID LEE (book/lyrics), born in Lynchburg, VA, graduated with distinction from the University of Virginia, earning Bachelor of Arts degrees in both drama and music, as well as a scholarship for vocal performance. While earning his MFA from the Tisch School of the Arts Graduate Musical Theatre Writing Program, where he received both the Paulette Goddard and Lew & Edie Wasserman Scholarships, David wrote, with collaborator, Ron Passaro, the original musical ALL FALL DOWN, a rumination on 20-something life in NYC directly following September 11th. David and Ron are currently working on two new full-length projects, and one of their recent songs, a political parody, may be featured in the upcoming Michael Moore documentary about healthcare in America. In his non-writing life, David works as a Television Producer and Editor.

RON PASSARO (music) studied music and orchestration with Osvaldo Golijov and then continued on to get his MFA at the Tisch Graduate Musical Theater Writing Program at NYU. He has written everything from orchestral scores to pop ballads and his music has been used in film, television and live theater. Ron is an avid fan of children's theater, so it was an exciting thrill to set Lilly's Big Day to music!

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LILLY'S BIG DAY

(Lights and birdsong indicate morning; LILLY stirs from bed)

#1 Ordinary Day (Lilly, Mother, Mr. Slinger, Students)

LILLY

AN ORDINARY DAY…

MOTHER

Lilly!

LILLY

THE SAME IN EV'RY WAY…

MOTHER

You mustn't be late for school!

LILLY

AS EV'RY OTHER ORDINARY DAY.

(LILLY'S MOTHER walks LILLY into school as bell rings)

MR. SLINGER

Good morning, Lilly!

(With a sigh)

LILLY

Good morning, Mr. Slinger…

MOTHER WAVES GOODBYE
AS THE SCHOOL BELL RINGS,
WE DO LOTS OF FUN, BUT ORDINARY THINGS.
IT'S ANOTHER ORDINARY DAY.

MR. SLINGER

Class, it's time for lunch!

(STUDENTS scurry to get their lunches, eagerly dive in)

LILLY

AND I HAVE A HUNCH
THERE'S AN ORDINARY SLAB OF CHEESE TO MUNCH.

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(LILLY halfheartedly pulls a wedge of Swiss from her brown bag)

IT'S ANOTHER ORDINARY…

MR. SLINGER

Students, I have an announcement.

(Students ad lib responses)

#2 The Announcement/Biggest Day of My Life (Mr. Slinger, Lilly)

MR. SLINGER

YOU ALL KNOW MS. SHOTWELL
THE DEPENDABLE SCHOOL NURSE.
SHE WAS TREATING ME FOR ROMANCE,
BUT I FEAR IT'S GOTTEN WORSE!

MS. SHOTWELL HAS AGREED TO BE MY WIFE.
IT WILL BE THE BIGGEST DAY OF MY…

LILLY

MY GOODNESS—SO TODAY IS NOT A VERY
ORDINARY DAY AT ALL!

MR. SLINGER

YOU'RE ALL INVITED!

LILLY

YES, I'M TERRIBLY EXCITED—
THE ENTIRE SCHOOL IS GOING TO THE WEDDING,
AND I'M BETTING I'LL BE FLOWER GIRL!
I'M GONNA BE THE FLOWER GIRL!

MR. SLINGER

MS. SHOTWELL HAS AGREED TO BE MY WIFE.

LILLY

I'LL BE PERFECT!

MR. SLINGER & LILLY

IT WILL BE THE BIGGEST DAY OF MY LIFE.

MR. SLINGER

See you tomorrow, class!

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(MR. SLINGER and STUDENTS disperse. In a euphoric daze, LILLY assumes the position of flower girl, hums "Here Comes the Bride," and parades home with great panache)

#3 Down the Aisle (Lilly)

LILLY
I WILL HOLD MY HEAD HIGH
AND SMILE AS I WALK BY
VERY, VERY SLOWLY—
EV'RY EYE STARING SOLELY AT ME!

(Back at home, LILLY'S PARENTS clear up after dinner)

#4 Parental Concern (Father, Mother, Lilly)

LILLY'S FATHER
LILLY, YOU'VE BEEN ACTING SILLY ALL EV'NING.

LILLY'S MOTHER
DARLING, WHO ARE YOU PRETENDING TO BE?

LILLY
I'M NOT PRETENDING, MOTHER—
I'M A FLOWER GIRL!

LILLY'S FATHER
Who's getting married?

LILLY
Mr. Slinger.

LILLY'S MOTHER
Really?

LILLY
Really.

LILLY'S FATHER
Really?

LILLY
REALLY…
AND THE FLOWER GIRL IS CERTAIN TO BE ME.

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LILLY'S FATHER

Has Mr. Slinger asked you?

LILLY

WELL, NOT REALLY …

(With care, LILLY'S PARENTS usher her to her bed)

LILLY'S MOTHER

LILLY, YOU KNOW THERE ARE MANY STUDENTS IN YOUR CLASS.

LILLY'S FATHER

MR. SLINGER COULDN'T POSSIBLY PICK JUST ONE.

LILLY'S MOTHER

IT WOULDN'T BE FAIR.

LILLY'S FATHER

MAYBE SOMEDAY YOUR AUNT MONA WILL BE MARRIED…

LILLY'S MOTHER

THEN YOU CAN BE FLOWER GIRL AS PLANNED.

LILLY'S FATHER

DARLING, DO YOU UNDERSTAND?

LILLY

I UNDERSTAND…

(LILLY'S PARENTS kiss LILLY goodnight, exit)

I'LL BE *MR. SLINGER'S* FLOWER GIRL!

(Lights and birdsong indicate the next morning; LILLY bounds out of bed)

#5 The Next Morning/Sharing Time (Lilly, Father, Mr. Slinger, Students)

LILLY

A SORTA SPECIAL DAY…

FATHER

Lilly!

LILLY

'CAUSE IT'S ONE ALONG THE WAY…

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FATHER
Well, you're up bright and early today!

LILLY
TO MY AWESOME, EXTRA-ORDINARY DAY!

(School bell rings)

MR. SLINGER
Good morning, class. It's sharing time!

STUDENT 1
SOME DAY I'LL FLY A ROCKET SHIP
TO A PLANET MADE OF BRIE!

STUDENTS
Ooh!

STUDENT 2
I'LL BE THE CEO
OF A GORGONZOLA COMPANY!

STUDENTS
Ahh!

STUDENT 3
SOME DAY I'LL BE PRESIDENT
AND REFORM OUR CHEDDAR POLICY!

STUDENTS
Cheddar for free!

LILLY
I'M GONNA BE A FLOWER GIRL…

(THE STUDENTS breathe a collective sigh of awe and surprise)

ANY TEACHER WOULD BE PROUD OF CHOOSING ME!

(LILLY hums "Here Comes the Bride," reenacting her flower girl routine for the class)

LILLY
I WILL HOLD MY HEAD HIGH
AND SMILE AS I WALK BY
VERY, VERY SLOWLY…

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MR. SLINGER

Great sharing, class.

LILLY, MAY I HAVE A WORD WITH YOU?

#6 Rude Awakening (Mr. Slinger, Lilly)

MR. SLINGER

I GET THE FEELING YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE MY FLOWER GIRL.
BUT I'VE ASKED MY NIECE ALREADY AND SHE'S AGREED—
HER NAME IS GINGER.

LILLY

(Stung)

I see.

MR. SLINGER

BUT GINGER'S YOUNG—SHE NEEDS A GOOD ASSISTANT.
WHILE SHE'S WAITING
YOU COULD HOLD HER HAND
AND SHOW HER HOW TO STAND.

LILLY

I UNDERSTAND—
I'LL BE GINGER'S ASSISTANT FLOWER GIRL.

If you really need me so much!

(As MR. SLINGER and classroom recede, LILLY proceeds with authority to a slide projector, conveniently set up in her bedroom. She grabs the projector remote control and a pointer, giving a presentation to her stuffed animals)

#7 Assistant Flower Girls (Lilly)

(SLIDES I & II: hand drawings of LILLY looking glamorous as an Assistant Flower Girl. Blurbs of text on the slides, scrawled in Lilly's writing and adorned with curly arrows pointing strategically throughout the page, read "Lilly = ASSISTANT FLOWER GIRL," "AFG = better than the bride," etc.)

LILLY

ASSISTANT FLOWER GIRLS ARE TERRIBLY IMPORTANT!
THEIR DUTIES ARE TOO NUMEROUS TO LIST.

(SLIDE III: grotesque caricature of a little girl, labeled "Ginger")

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THEY'RE POPULAR,
THEY'RE GLAMOROUS,
AND EXPERTS ALL AGREE
WITHOUT AN AFG
A WEDDING CAN'T EXIST!

(SLIDE IV: hand drawing of MR. SLINGER wearing a dunce cap and Groucho Marks glasses w/nose and mustache, crossed out by a red circle with a Ghosbusters-style slash)

ASSISTANT FLOWER GIRLS ARE TERRIBLY IMPORTANT!

(LILLY'S PARENTS ENTER, once again usher LILLY to bed)

FATHER
THEY ARE, MY DEAR—

MOTHER
BUT NOW IT'S TIME FOR BED.

MOTHER & FATHER
TOMORROW MR. SLINGER TAKES A WIFE.

(LILLY'S PARENTS exit as LILLY drifts off)

LILLY
IT WILL BE THE BIGGEST DAY OF *GINGER'S* LIFE!

(Lights become surreal as DREAM MR. SLINGER enters, moving with a languorous, dreamlike urgency)

#8 Lilly's Dream (Company)

DREAM MR. SLINGER
LILLY…

LILLY
(Disoriented)
Mr. Slinger?

DREAM MR. SLINGER
OH LILLY, THANK GOODNESS I'VE FOUND YOU!

(DREAM COMPANY enters, moving eerily)

DREAM COMPANY
THANK GOODNESS HE'S FOUND YOU!

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DREAM MR. SLINGER

POOR GINGER'S FALLEN ILL,
IT'S TERRIBLE, BUT STILL
IT MEANS THAT, LILLY,
YOU WILL BE MY FLOWER GIRL!

LILLY

This is all so sudden!

DREAM COMPANY

WE NEED YOU LILLY!

LILLY

You didn't before!

DREAM COMPANY

DON'T BE SILLY, LILLY!

LILLY

Poor Ginger!

DREAM COMPANY

REST IS THE BEST THING FOR HER!

DREAM MR. SLINGER

EVEN DEAR MS. SHOTWELL COULDN'T CURE HER.

LILLY

WELL, IF YOU REALLY NEED ME SO MUCH…
OKAY!

DREAM COMPANY

SHE SAID OKAY!

(LILLY whips our her wedding corsage)

LILLY

Good thing I'm ready!

DREAM COMPANY

IT'S LILLY'S BIG DAY!

(Lights shift abruptly, indicating the wedding church)

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#9 Lilly's Big Day (Company)

MR. SLINGER
LILLY, LET ME INTRODUCE YOU TO GINGER.

LILLY
I'm sorry?

MR. SLINGER
GINGER, LILLY WILL ASSIST YOU TODAY.

GINGER
I'M KINDA SCARED—
I'VE NEVER BEEN A FLOWER GIRL.

MR. SLINGER
See you at the altar, dear.

(MR. SLINGER begins down the isle)

LILLY
YOU'RE NOT SICK, THEN?

GINGER
I DON'T THINK SO.

LILLY
Really?

GINGER
Really.

LILLY
REALLY?

GINGER
REALLY.

LILLY
BEING FLOWER GIRL IS WHAT YOU WANT TO DO?

GINGER
Yep.

LILLY
You sure?

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GINGER

Yep.

LILLY

You look a little feverish.

(GINGER looks at LILLY skeptically)

LILLY

THEN I'LL DO MY VERY BEST AT HELPING YOU.

USHER

(Whisper)
Girls, it's time!

GINGER

IT'S TIME?

USHER

It's time!

LILLY

IT'S TIME FOR WALKING DOWN THE ISLE!

GINGER

But I'm—

CONGREGATION

IT'S TIME!

GINGER

(Deer in the headlights)
I… can't… move.

LILLY

OH, MY GOODNESS—SO TODAY
IS NOT A VERY ORDINARY DAY AT ALL.
THE WEDDING'S STALLED
AND I'VE BEEN CALLED
TO SERVE MY TEACHER AND THE CROWD.
I NEVER THOUGHT I'D BE SO PROUD
TO BE ASSISTANT FLOWER GIRL!!

Hold on, Ginger!!

(LILLY scoops GINGER up, marches proudly down the isle)

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LILLY
WE MUST HOLD OUR HEADS HIGH!

GINGER
Like this!?

LILLY
AND SMILE AS WE WALK BY—
VERY, VERY SLOWLY.

GINGER
I think I've got it!

MR. SLINGER
BECAUSE OF LILLY, EV'RYTHING'S OKAY!

ALL
HOORAY!

(Dance break)

ALL
IT'S GINGER
AND LILLY'S BIG…

LILLY
When I get married, you can be my flower girl!

(They hug)

ALL
DAY!

(Blackout)

THE END

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