



# JUICY AND DELICIOUS

BY LUCY ALIBAR



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JUICY AND DELICIOUS  
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*For Ed Vassallo,  
who made me stare down the aurochs.*

## AUTHOR'S NOTE

I wrote *Juicy and Delicious* when my father became very ill very suddenly. And that made me think a lot about the universe falling apart, and what was permanent and what wasn't.

I'll also say that it was important for me, at the time of writing it, to have it not be a play about me. The best way I knew to do that was to make Hushpuppy a boy. I've chosen to leave Hushpuppy a boy in the text, but I'd be very interested and open to seeing this character as a little girl.

Finally, the Japanese! "Nan desu ka?" means, "What is that?" "Oshi desu" means, roughly, "This is very good."

BIG LOVE Y'ALL,  
Lucy Alibar

JUICY AND DELICIOUS received its world premiere at The Tank in New York City on February 14, 2007. It was directed by Zoe Aja Moore and the choreography was by Brian Maloney. The cast included: Lucy Alibar, Elliott Crowell, Aidan Kane, James Ryan Caldwell, Ben Maddocks, Brian Maloney, Tom Rothacker, Anna Sapozhnikova, Liz Wisan and Eden Worsley.

## CHARACTERS

**HUSHPUPPY:** A sweet little Southern boy. Not the sharpest knife in the box.

**DADDY:** Hushpuppy's daddy. A big, scary Southern man with a glass eye and a Georgia Bulldogs hat.

**MAMMA:** Hushpuppy's mamma. She disappeared after Hushpuppy was born, so she's just a figment of his imagination. No one else in the play can ever see or hear Mamma except Hushpuppy. When she touches Hushpuppy, it's a "ghost touch," a few inches above his body. She plays the ukulele.

**MISS BATHSHEBA:** The school teacher. She wields a paddle and carries a bullwhip.

**JOY:** A big, scary Southern girl.

**BIRFDAY CAKE:** A Southern Harpo Marx. He's always holding an egg.

**AUROCHS:** Big, scary, extinct bulls, as seen in cave paintings at Lascaux.

**A NURSE:** Played by the actress playing Mamma.

**A JAPANESE WOMAN:** Played by the actress playing Mamma.

*Childhood is the kingdom where nobody dies.*

—Edna St. Vincent Millay

*Quiero hacer contigo lo que la primavera hace  
con los cerezos.*

—Pablo Neruda

# JUICY AND DELICIOUS

## THE END OF ANATOMY

HUSHPUPPY. "Science: The End of Anatomy. Also Possibly the End of the World." (*Hushpuppy picks up a banjo. Plays. It's not good. While he plays, lights up on a Nurse's office. The Nurse stands with Daddy, holding an X-ray. She is holding it up to the light. She points at a bad spot. Another. Another. Another. In Hushpuppy's room, and in the Nurse's office, some grits fall from the sky and fly through the open window. The three stare at the grits, curious. A lemon flies in through the window. Blackout.*)

## DON'T CRY LIKE A BABY

HUSHPUPPY. "Don't Cry Like a Baby." (*Hushpuppy and Daddy are in the truck, hunting for dinner. Hushpuppy is crying hysterically.*)

DADDY. Stupid possum. Stay! Stay there! (*He swerves and misses.*)

HUSHPUPPY. Nobody never told me I was gonna die! I don't wanna die! So I'm gonna die too?

DADDY. At some point. Don't they teach y'all that at school? (*Hushpuppy cries harder.*)

HUSHPUPPY. We just learn about manners and how not to look like trash!

DADDY. Well neither does this here possum, but want want want.

DAMN! (*He swerves again. Misses.*)

HUSHPUPPY. I thought only animals die! (*Daddy hits a possum. They both cheer up a bit.*)

DADDY. Hell yeah they do! No more cat food for my Hush-



puppy, Boss. Go grab that possum. (*Hushpuppy gets out of the truck. Retrieves the possum. Daddy watches.*) Hell yeah. I the Boss Man. I got it under control. (*Hushpuppy gets back in the truck.*) Everybody's daddy dies. Mine got ate by wolves. That shit was hardcore. That's how men used to die. My blood's eating itself. You know who dies like that? Cows. My daddy gone by wolves and I gotta die like some milk cow. Don't cry Hushpuppy! Makes you look ugly. Lookit. I'm'll show you a magic trick.  
HUSHPUPPY. Magic trick. (*Daddy pops out his glass eyeball.*)  
DADDY. Why don't you hang on to it.

## IT'S THE END OF THE WORLD, Y'ALL

*Hushpuppy at school. A bunch of scrappy kids who are bottom of the food chain.*

*Miss Bathsheba stands before a picture of an aurochs.*

*We hear the sound of ice cracking — a glacier coming loose and falling into the sea.*

MISS BATHSHEBA. Welcome to Miss Bathsheba's Finishing School! Welcome to the End of the World. (*A lemon hits the window. Then several more.*) Don't pay attention to that. Pay attention to me.

Lesson One: Aurochs.

Long, long ago, when we all lived in caves, the world was swarming with aurochs.

Aurochs were big and hungry and ate babies.

For an aurochs, the perfect breakfast was a sweet, juicy little cave baby. They would gobble cave babies down right in front of their cave parents.

And the cavemen couldn't do nothing about it, because they were too poor, too stupid, too small.

To defy the aurochs would mean a long, painful death.

But even cavemen love their children,

# JUICY AND DELICIOUS

by Lucy Alibar

3M, 6W (doubling)

Hushpuppy lives with his Daddy and his ghost Mamma on the edge of the earth. Life is juicy and delicious until Hushpuppy's dad gets sick, the world starts to fall apart, and prehistoric ice beasts begin to crawl out of the red Georgia clay. As Daddy gets weaker, the world becomes more fragile and nature itself begins to come unrendered. Hushpuppy and his friends must learn to care for each other while they battle the fearsome aurochs in this magical Southern fantasia that inspired the movie *Beasts of the Southern Wild*.

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