

Santa Fe: A new
Musical

List of characters:

Johnny: An Abused teenager who dreams of running off to Santa Fe 16-19 (mixed race)

David: Johnny's best mate who also gets abused and wants to go to Santa Fe. His abuse has put him on a crutch 15-18 (Caucasian)

Clara: Johnny's Sensitive Mother who is powered by 29-32 (Caucasian)

Jacob: Johnny's dad who abuses him daily 32-35 (Italian)

Leon: a kid who Johnny and David meet on their way to Santa Fe 16-19 (Jamaican)

Company: Any age/gender/ethnicity

A Note from the Writer

You will notice I have put very few stage directions this is to give the director freedom to express themselves and create the play as they see fit according to space and cast size.

The set for this show can be either very elaborate or set on a bare stage.

Also the Genders/ages/ethnicities of the characters are not set they can be changed according to the cast and genders of the actors.

Sincerely

Declan Robertson

Scene 1

(Shady Lakes, Johnny stands alone)

Johnny: The year is 1899, All the news boys are on strike and I'm on the run to be brief William McKinley is president of the United States. All I've wanted to do is run away, with an abusive father and an alcoholic mother my life was pretty crap until the day I met my best mate David James Whitbread

(David Enters)

David: Hey Johnny wait up

Johnny: Hey come here man I wanna show something

Johnny (sung)

They say folks is dyin' to get here.

Me, I'm dyin' to get away,

To a little town out west

That's spankin' new.

And while I ain't never been there,

I can see it clear as day.

If you want, I bet'cha you could see it, too.

Close your eyes...

Come with me,

Where it's clean and green and pretty.

And they went and made city outta clay.

**Why, the minute that we get there,
Folks'll walk right up and say,
"Welcome home, boys, welcome home to Santa Fe!"
Plantin' crops,
Splittin' rails,
Swappin' tales around the fire,
'Cept for Sunday when you lie around all day.
Soon your friends are more like family,
and they's beggin' you to stay!
Ain't that neat?
Livin' sweet
In Santa Fe.**

(Spoken)

Hey, no one worries about any gimp leg in Santa Fe. You just hop a Palomino, you'll ride in style!

David (spoken):

Picture me, ridin' in style.

Johnny (spoken):

Hey, I bet a few months of clean air, you could toss that crutch for good!

Johnny & David (sung):

Santa Fe,

you can bet.

We won't let them bastids beat us.

We won't beg no one to treat us fair and square.

There's a life that's worth the livin',

and I'm gonna do my share.

Johnny (sung):

Work the land.

Chase the sun.

Johnny & David (sung):

Swim the whole Rio Grande just for fun!

David (sung):

Watch me stand!

Watch me run...

Johnny (spoken):

Hey, hey...

(Sung)

Don't you know that we's a family?

Would I let you down?

No way.

Just hold on, kid,

Till that train makes Santa Fe.

David: So why you all the way up here?

Johnny: Why do you think?

David: Your old man ain't beatin' you up again is he?

Johnny: Every day is the same old thing I get clobbered round the back of the head and slapped until I can't see straight and that's just when his happy

David: When the heck are we gettin' outta here anyways?

Johnny: Today!!!

Scene Two

(Johnny's Home)

Johnny: Mom I'm home

Jacob: WHERE THE FUCK HAVE YOU BEEN!!!

Johnny: Hey cool you're Jets, look I was at shady lakes with David

Jacob: We've been worried sick

Johnny: (under his breath) Bullshit

Jacob; what was that?

Johnny: I said Bullshit

Jacob: Right that's it (He punches Johnny and chucks him in his room)

Clara; was there any need...

Jacob: Shut up!!!

Johnny (From his room): See what I mean it's the same old crap 24/7. I can't get away from it. But I decided it was time to get outta here the nearest train was 10 miles west of here so I packed and met David to start the way to Santa Fe.

David (off stage): Hey Johnny are ya ready

Johnny: Just coming

He climbs out the window and meets David upstage left

David: I can't believe were doing this

Johnny: me neither

Both (Sung):

Santa Fe. My old friend.

I can't spend my whole life dreaming.

Though I know that's all I seem inclined to do.

I ain't getting any younger.

And I wanna start brand new.

I need space. And fresh air.

Let them laugh in our face. We don't care.

Save my place. I'll be there.

Johnny (sung):

Just be real. Is all I'm asking?

Not some painting in my head.

Cause I'm dead if I can't count on you today.

I got nothing if I ain't got Santa Fe.

Scene 3

(The road to Santa Fe)

They walk along a deserted road and see a boy walking along with a massive backpack

Leon: Excuse Me

Johnny: What's up?

Leon: Could you tell me where the nearest Station is please?

David: were going there anyways so I'm sure you could tag along, right Johnny?

Johnny: David can I talk to you for a second? (Pulls him to one side)
Are you fuckin' nuts we don't know him how can we trust him?

David: he looks pretty Harmless to me

Johnny: Fine but if so much as pisses me of his gone (to Leon) come on kid we'll take ya

Leon: oh well thanks very much

David: What's your name anyways?

Leon: I'm Leon

Johnny; Well I'm Johnny and this is David. Where bouts are you heading?

Leon: Santa Fe

Johnny: Hey us too

Leon: Cool

Johnny:

Well, I'm Thwarted By A Metaphysic

Puzzle

And I'm Sick of getting beat up by my dad

And I'm Shouting In My Sleep, I Need A Muzzle

All This Misery Pays No Salary, So

Let's Open Up A Restaurant In Santa Fe

Oh Sunny Santa Fe Would Be Nice

We'll Open Up A Restaurant In Santa Fe

And Leave This To The Roaches And Mice

Oh--Oh

ALL

Oh--

Leon

You Get beat up?

Johnny

Ya – I get beat up till I can't see straight

David

America

ALL

America!

Johnny (to Leon):

You're A Sensitive Aesthete

Brush The Sauce Onto The Meat

You Could Make The Menu Sparkle

With Rhyme

(to David)

You Could Drum A Gentle Drum

I Could Seat Guests As They Come

Chatting Not About Heidegger, But Wine!

Let's Open Up A Restaurant In Santa Fe

Our Labors Would Reap Financial Gain

ALL

Gain, Gain, Gain

David

We'll Open Up A Restaurant In Santa Fe

And Save From Devastation Our Brains

All

Save Our Brains

ALL

We'll Pack Up All Our Junk And Fly

So Far Away

Devote Ourselves To Projects That Sell

We'll Open Up A Restaurant In Santa Fe

Forget This Cold Bohemian Hell

Oh--

Oh--

Johnny

Do You Know The Way To Santa Fe?

You Know, Tumbleweeds...Prairie Dogs...

ALL:

YEAH

Scene 4

(Johnny's Home)

Jacob: That Little Shit!

Clara: Jacob calm the hell down, what's happened?

Jacob: He ran away, He ran a fucking way

Clara: Why would he do that?

(He gives her a look)

Clara: Oh right

Jacob: I'm Gonna Kill him

Clara: and you wonder why he ran away because you lose your temper and lash out at him

Jacob: Clara I suggest you sit down and leave me alone before I kick ten tonnes of shit out of you

Clara (quietly): No

Jacob: What was that?

Clara (louder): I said No Jacob, I'm fed up of you telling me what to do I'm gonna find my son and were gonna move away where you can't find us

Clara Smacks him and walks out, leaving Jacob alone

Jacob: Clara...CLARA!!!

Scene 5

(The train station)

Johnny: well here we are lads

David: Great finally I'm getting' outta here

Leon: Yeah after weeks of travelling I'm getting my big break

David: So what happens now?

Johnny: Yeah, do we go our separate ways or...

Leon attacks David and Johnny and takes their Luggage

Johnny: what happened?

David: I don't know

Johnny realizes what has happened

Johnny: Oh shit

David: What?

Johnny: That bastard took our entire luggage; I knew we shouldn't of trusted him

David: Well I still have the money I stole from my father how bout you?

Johnny: yeah I still got it

David: well we have enough for a one way to Santa Fe and new clothes and a hotel

Johnny: I suppose

David: the next train arrives in half an hour why don't we grab a coffee and wait

Johnny: Fine

Scene 6:

Santa Fe

David: Well Here we are Johnny

Johnny: yeah, Santa Fe we made it

David: Let's gets some new clothes

(Blackout: projection 5 hours later)

Johnny: So what now

David: well I guess we best find a hotel quick the news boys come into town to riot soon.

(In the distance there's a shouting sound, it grows louder and louder and Johnny and David are knocked to their feet. Blackout, someone screams)

END OF ACT 1

Act 2

Scene 1

A hotel In Santa Fe

Radio announcer (in blackout): And In other news a kid called David James Whitbread was crushed and killed by a group of rioting News boys. This riot was...

The radio is turned off by Johnny who is in a single spotlight

Looks like I finally got my big break.

"David Crushed as Bulls Attack"

David's calling me,

Dumb crip's just too damn slow.

Guys are fightin', bleedin' fallin'

No thanks thanks to good ole' Captain Jon.

Captain Jon just wants to close his eyes and go.

Let me go.

Far away.

Somewhere they won't ever find me, and tomorrow won't remind me of today.

And the city's finally sleepin'.

And the moon looks old and grey.

I get on a train that's bound for Santa Fe.

And I'm gone.

And I'm done.

No more running. No more lying.

No more fat old man kickin' my ass all day.

Just a moon so big and yellow, it turns night right into day.

Dreams come true. Yeah they do. In Santa Fe.

Where does it say you gotta live and die here?

Where does it say a guy can't catch a break?

Why should you only take what you're given?

Why should you spend your whole life living trapped where there .

Even at 17. Breaking your back for someone else's sake.

If the life don't seem to suit you, how about a change of scene?

Far from the lousy headlines and the deadlines in between.

Santa Fe. My old friend.

I can't spend my whole life dreaming.

Though I know that's all I seem inclined to do.

I ain't getting any younger.

And I wanna start brand new.

I need space. And fresh air.

Let them laugh in my face. I don't care.

Save my place. I'll be there.

Just be real. Is all I'm asking.

Not some painting in my head.

Cause I'm dead if I can't count on you today.

I got nothing if I ain't got Santa Fe.

Scene 2

The road to Santa Fe

Clara is in her car and she sees Leon carrying the entire luggage he stole

Clara: excuse me

Leon: Yeah?

Clara: I was wondering if you could help me I'm trying to find my son, perhaps you've seen him (She shows a picture of Johnny, Leon looks shocked)

Leon: No sorry love

Clara: oh right ok

She starts the car but Leon calls after her

Leon: WAIT. Let me see that picture again

She does so

Leon: I think I saw him at the train station, if you want I can show you

Clara: oh thank you so much just...

She notices Johnny's Bag

Clara: That's His Bag

Leon (panicking): Huh?

Clara: That's my son's bag

Leon: I don't think so miss

Clara: You stole it

Leon: Your mistaken

Clara: Give it to me

Leon: No

They struggle until finally Clara takes it from him

Clara: You fuckin' robbed my son

Leon: He deserved it

Clara: Why?

Leon: Because he was a down right Bastard

Clara: You tell me where he is

Leon: He's probably half way to Santa Fe by Now

She drives off taking Johnny's and David's bags with her