

**Positive  
Stories  
For  
Negative  
Times**

**Season 2  
2021/22**

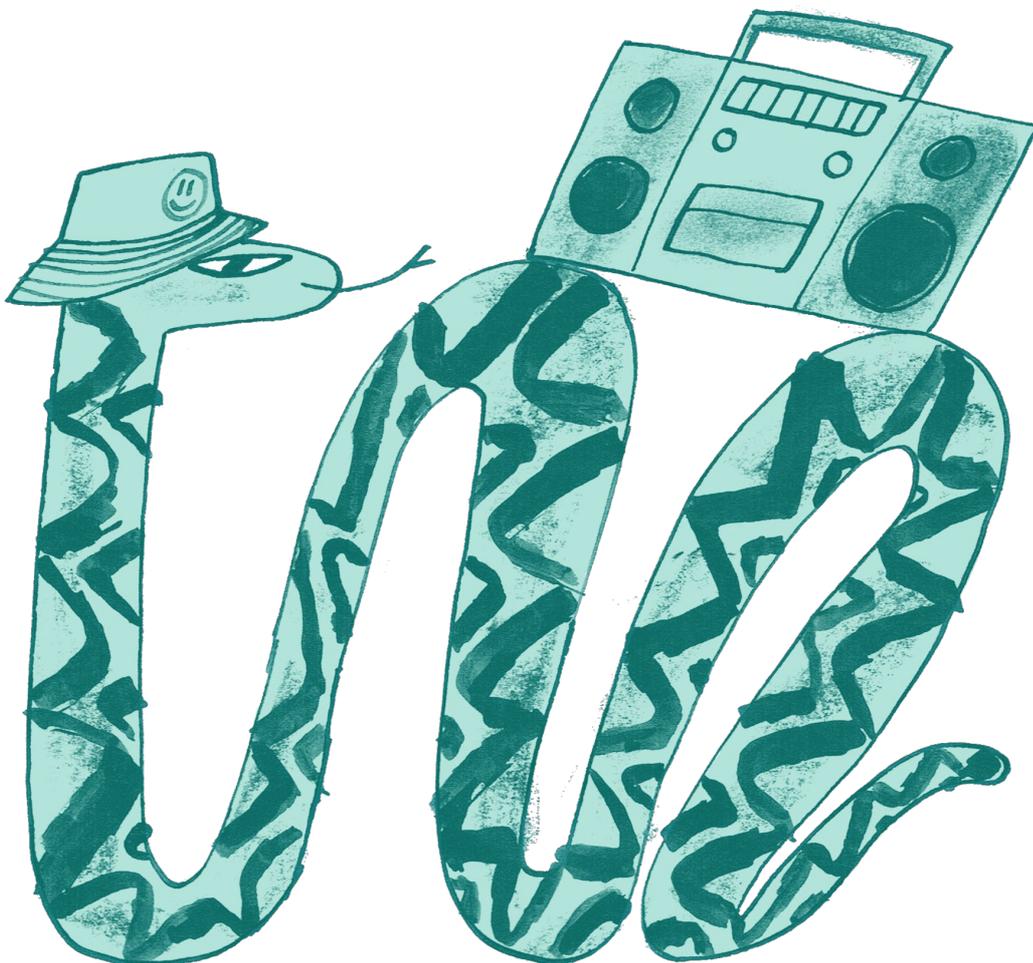
Presented by

**WONDER  
FOOLS**

In association with



# **Write to Rave: Step Pon** by Debris Stevenson



## KEY – SCRIPT LAYOUT

I am very dyslexic, so I've laid out the scripts in a visual way. Below is a breakdown of the layout I've created to suit my own neurodivergent brain. As with everything, this is a suggestion, and some aspects of the layout may be more useful than others to your group. Feel free to use the bits that are helpful and leave/change the bits that are not.

Also bear in mind if some of you will be working with our provided music and some of you will be working with your own score and that will affect which notes are useful/relevant – the same goes for the optional elements like lighting and looping.

Below is the fonts/formats I have used to indicate the following things:

### PERSON SPEAKING

Dialogue.

**Sound/Music/DJ & Lighting: State Suggestions**

*Stage directions.*

*Ensemble directions.*

### *DEVELOPMENT EXERCISES*

-That you can try to develop each scene.

# ACT 1: The Fight to Come Out “BOPOWAN”

## 1.1 Locked In

*Three toilet cubicles (or any confined space), each clearly a different bathroom in a different house/space. Different people climb through the window of each cubicle.*

*Cubicle 1: Dia's cubicle covered in EDL/BMP style propaganda. Dia rips the posters off the walls.*

**DIA**

Locked in a house with my racist, homophobic, Daily Mail reading parents.

I need to dance –

*Cubicle 2: Eesha is wearing scrubs and is brushing her teeth.*

**EESHA**

the way a baby needs to bob to the beat before they can speak.

*Cubicle 3: GG is wrapped in a duvet stuck to the back wall.*

**GG**

But I've been locked in here for a year.

**EESHA**

I'd give anything for a dancefloor, a hug, a Wrey Neph but carnival's cancelled.

*Eesha chucks some clothes over the top of her cubicle to GG.*

**DIA**

It's more than just carnival that's been cancelled –

**GG**

I've been cancelled.

**EESHA**

I need to get out. I need to Step Pon the dance floor and remember what it means to be me, to see –

**GG:**

if I still can be.

**DIA:** Do you remember when things were easy?

## 1.2 Inner Child

*COSTUME/MOVEMENT TASK: Get an oversized hoodie and play with ways of turning it into a strait jacket.*

*-Play with how you can get out of the strait jackets using different vocabulary.*

*-Play with trying different lifts with each other using the strait jackets.*

*-Note: Use a crash mat.*

*SOUND*

-Create alarm and Tannoy effects using voices using DJ, SFX, looping other sound equipment.

### MOVEMENT

-Work out how to get them into strait jackets.

-Play around with famous dances the audience could participate in like YMCA or Follow the Leader then remix those sounds and movements into a conversation (building on the warmup exercises).

-Vocabulary: Child & Monster.

*The Lighting changes and they all have a children's bday party, bobbing around like toddlers. They let go till they evolve from babies to almost feral, primal beings.*

*Giving out instruments, party poppers, hats etc. to the audience and encouraging them to play.*

*Moment of complete unbridled childlike fun,*

*Fire Alarm.*

### TANNOY

You must now evacuate your body, the bathroom, the building, the country because your Mum's discovered what a Dutty Whine is.

*Dia hides under a table whilst GG and Eesha are caught off guard.*

*Members of the ensemble come in to wrap Eesha and GG in hoodies as strait jackets and fling them back into their cubicles locking the doors.*

*Dia is left in the remnants of the children's birthday party – hiding under the table. A hooded, masked figure appears at the table above her and pulls off the tablecloth - underneath are the DJ decks.*

## 1.3 Mine Again

**Music:** Gal Dem - <https://bit.ly/debrismusic1>

*DJ runs tracks and Dia spits bars from under the table.*

### VOCABULARY

-Child

### LIGHTING

-Play with lighting bars to create a space for DIA to hide in under the DJ decks

### DIA

I can't explain it outa me.  
I have to move it outwardly.  
But I could breathe it outa me.  
I could shake it rhythmically

Until my body is mine, mine  
again, mine to mine, mine  
again. Until my body is mine, mine  
again, mine to mine, mine again.

Raving, raving it saved my life  
it stopped me from bathing wi' clothes on – nights.  
It stopped the lock down in my body – pandemic.

Ina' sexuality – homophobic hostage.

In the rave I could feel me, me.  
The first time I could feel free, free.  
The first-time that touch stopped being a virus  
and started being vaccine.

Therapy in this country – is a chair  
and questions, questions, questions.  
The sexual abuse in my family, yeah  
it goes back – generations.

I can't explain it outa me.  
I have to move it outwardly.  
But I could breathe it outa me.  
I could shake it rhythmically.

Until my body is mine, mine  
again, mine to mine, mine  
again. Until my body is mine, mine  
again, mine to mine, mine again.

And don't get it twisted raves aint safe,  
I've kicked down a door,  
I've smashed a man's face  
into the DJ booth  
(He grabbed my vagina).  
I've been kidnapped  
cause I tried to whine up.

Riskin life for the party:  
over the globe  
prides n carni –  
life is a party  
think of a baby  
bobbin to their backside  
before it say mummy.

I can't explain it outa me.  
I have to move it outwardly.  
But I could breathe it outa me.  
I could shake it rhythmically

until my body is mine, mine  
again, mine to mine, mine  
again. Until my body is mine, mine  
again, mine to mine, mine again.

Baby knows something we don't know,  
listen to their feet in the street  
they flow.

Baby knows something we don't know,  
listen to their feet in the street  
they flow.

Until my body is mine, mine  
Again, mine to mine, mine

Again. Until my body is mine, mine  
Again, mine to mine, mine Again.

I can't explain it outa me.  
I have to move it outwardly.  
But I could breathe it outa me.  
I could shake it rhythmically

until my body is mine, mine  
again, mine to mine, mine  
again. Until my body is mine, mine  
again, mine to mine, mine again.

*Dia storms into her toilet door and slams it but it ricochets back open. GG & Eesha's toilet doors swing open too – they are in the strait jacket hoodies and GG is stuck to the wall in her duvet.*

**PERFORMANCE:**

*-Dia delivers all her lines as though she is arguing with her parents about going out.*

*-GG mumbles their lines to themselves.*

*-Eesha delivers all her lines over the phone like she's gossiping/complaining to someone.*

*-Deliver them as fast as possible.*

**DIA**

RAVING SAVED MY LIFE!

**GG**

It stopped me bathing in my clothes on.  
Stopped the lockdown in my body.

**EESHA**

The pandemic of my sexuality.

**DIA**

THE HOMOPHOBIA I WAS RAISED IN

**EESHA**

holding me hostage!

**DIA**

IT'S THE ONLY TIME I FEEL FREE, THE ONLY TIME I FEEL LIKE ME!

**EESHA**

It's about time touch stopped being a virus and started being a vaccine but therapy in this country is a chair and

**GG**

questions, questions, questions.

The sexual abuse in my family goes back generations -  
There is trauma in body deeper than I can speak of.

**DIA**

MORE PAINFUL THAN YOU KNOW

**GG**

There's no way I can talk to let it go.

**DIA**  
I HAVE TO MOVE.

**EESHA**  
I have to move this out of me.

**GG**  
I can't explain it away

**EESHA**  
I can breathe it out

**GG**  
Shake it out

**EESHA**  
rhythm it out

**DIA**  
TILL MY BODY IS MINE AGAIN

**GG**  
What if my body was mine again?

**DIA**  
I KNOW ALL RAVES AINT SAFE!

**EESHA**  
I've kicked down toilet doors!

**DIA**  
I'VE SMASHED MEN INTO THE DJ BOOTH

**EESHA**  
My vagina has been grabbed and I've been kidnapped more than once

**GG**  
but all over the world people risk their lives to party. Babies dance before they speak... but I live in a country where adults need drugs to feel free and if you're in a night club over thirty you're lonely.

**EESHA**  
It's wrong.

**GG**  
I've seen children all over the world dancing in the street.

**DIA**  
THEY KNOW SOMETHING YOU DON'T KNOW.

LISTEN.

*Dia goes to run out of the cubicle and a giant shadow slams the door shut in her face.*

**EESHA**  
Listen.

**GG**

To the patterns of their feet.

*Eesha gets off the phone and knocks on the cubicle wall to get GG's attention.*