

Role Play Script: Gianni's Adventures

Gianni (an older man with mild dementia symptoms). Gianni's perspective:
A strange world, similar to ours but full of glitches and objects that are not easily recognizable

Scene 1:

Gianni's internal monologue: *Where should I go? I can not remember...What is this place? With these strange people on the road ... weird. Do I have to do something? ...Yes I have to do something before I go home. But what?... I'll do this thing and go home right away.*

A **boy** outside talks to Gianni. He is seen as an alien by Gianni. In **Gianni's** world, the boy's speech does not make sense, the syllables are mixed together, as in a word salad:

Boy: *Hey, SoR. Ro yu Nud Dep?*

Gianni's internal monologue: *Uh! What does he want?*

Boy: *Hey, sir. Everything good? Do you need any help?*

Gianni's internal monologue: *Elderly gun? Go away from me....(afraid)*

From the outside **Gianni's** voice is uncertain and his speech is broken and confused:

Gianni: *No, don'tworry. Go, go ago away!*

The **Boy** goes away with his friend pushing his bicycle. They exchange a look as if to say he's crazy!

Scene 2

Gianni walks back and forth down the street more and more confused and frightened.

Gianni's internal monologue: *Thank goodness ... now I can ... what was I doing? I was... Ah, sure! I have to give water to the flowers!*

Martina passes by Gianni

Martina: *Sir, can I help you?*

Gianni's thoughts: *Here's another one.*

Gianni says uncertainly: *No, thanks. Do...not... not bother me!*

Martina insists: *Ok I see, no problem. (with a calm voice) What's your name, sir?*

Gianni: *Gianni. Engineer Cerutti*

Martina looks at the watering can in Gianni's hands

Martina: *Sir, were you going the garden?*

Gianni: *No, not in the garden...to give water to fam...to flowers.*

Martina: *Hhmmmm. Where are these flowers?*

Gianni looks up and doesn't recognise the two roads ahead of him

Gianni (makes up his mind): *Beyond*

Martina: *Ok I'll give you a lift*

The begin to walk down Gianni's chosen path. From the outside **Gianni** is not very sure where he is going. He looks around very confused

Martina: *Are you sure we are going in the right direction?*

Gianni: *I...I don't remember. (He starts to get anxious)*

Martina has a worried face. She wants to help **Gianni** but doesn't know how and she doesn't want to upset him

Scene 3:

The sun starts to set. **Gianni** continues to walk uncertainly and starts going back and forth. His daughter **Lilli** soon arrives

Lilli: *Dad! What are you doing here*

Gianni's thoughts: *Oh, there is my daughter Lilli! (He smiles, with a hint of confusion)*

Lilli (with a calm but sad voice): *I told you not to go too far*

Gianni's thoughts: *How she grew up...*

Gianni (showing the watering can): *I was going to water the flowers!*

Lilli: *Come on ... let's go home.*

Gianni persists: *The flowers dry up. Flowers first!*

Lilli: *But you don't even have water*

Gianni: *Water to the flowers! Water to the flowers! Water to the flowers!*

Lilli wants to please **Gianni** and takes him to the fountain. **Gianni** fills the watering can, making it overflow

Lilli: *Is that okay Dad?*

Gianni (satisfied): *Yes, I need a lot of water.*

Gianni carries the watering can with some difficulty. He sees a small flower growing in the road.

Gianni: *Here*

Lilli (ironic and tired, but with kindness): *It is a really beautiful flower, Dad.*

Gianni: *It has to grow, then it becomes even more beautiful. Now lets go home*

When they are walking after a few minutes **Gianni** looks at **Lilli** with a scared face because he doesn't recognise her anymore.

Gianni: *Who are you? I don't know who you are! What do you want from me? Where are we going? I have to go home...*

Lilli understands her dad's dementia very well and approaches his delusions without hesitation. For **Lilli** it is very challenging to pretend nothing has happened because she is very sad that her father does not recognise her, but she manages to put aside her emotions for the sake of her Dad.

Gianni: *My daughter...where is my daughter?*

Lilli: *I believe I have seen your daughter in the pharmacy. Shall we go there?*

Gianni is not completely sure whether to follow Lilli, but he trusts this stranger who is very nice to him!

Gianni: *Okay, let's go*

Scene 4

In the pharmacy the **pharmacist** recognizes Mr. Gianni who often gets lost.

Pharmacist: *Hello Engineer Cerrutti. I am going to call your daughter. She will be here soon.*

Gianni (looks at his watering can): *But I have to...*

Pharmacist (touching Gianni's hand gently): *Would you like to help me Gianni?*

Gianni: *Yes, if I can...*

Pharmacist: *Can you give water to that plant right there?*

Gianni (shaking the watering can): *I don't have money though!*

Pharmacist: *Do you mean water? It doesn't matter, it's a succulent plant.*

Gianni waters the cactus with the empty watering can

Gianni's thoughts: *Watering without water...This gentleman must be a bit crazy, hehehe*