

PRODUCTION NOTES

CASTING

The escapees, prisoners, and guards are all gender-neutral. The characters' names were chosen accordingly, so they can refer to either males or females. A few of the characters behave in a way more easily portrayed by one gender or the other (for instance, Kendall's obsession with her pretty chain seems more fitting to be played by a female cast member), but in general the characters' neutral roles allow for great flexibility in the casting.

If necessary, the cast members playing the four escapees can double as other characters.

COSTUMING

The prisoners look grimy, ill-used, and exhausted and wear matching uniforms. Uniforms can be as simple as matching t-shirts and denim; the main point is that the prisoners all have the same shabby, filthy appearance. Jaden's chain wraps around his waist instead of his wrists, and he sits in the middle. All the other prisoners' chains attach to his. Kendall's "pretty" chain is unique, and Addison has a cell phone and handbag. One of Hunter's legs is missing from the knee down, so he uses crutches to stand. The cast member playing Hunter needs to have one foot tied up behind him, with his pants designed to conceal this, so that it looks like his leg ends at the knee. (For most of the play, Hunter is seated, so the actor can simply sit on his lower leg and foot.)

The Guards wear identical uniforms with labels or insignia representing "Unit 9." The escapees simply wear plain, neat clothes, as does the Guide.

PROPS

Scene One: Table, two chairs, map, ruler, pens, paper

Scene Two: Some chairs or benches, chains (one wrapped in bright-colored fluff, for Kendall), window, "Unit 9" sign, "Home Sweet Home" sign, cell phone, bag, fake flower, plastic cup, table (for Gale and Hunter), map, crutches, low table (for Drew), pill bottles

Scene Three: Same as in Scene Two