

That's One Way to Feed a Shark

by River Luna Viets-Strel

Cast:

Oliver - 8 year old boy; a little scared and nervous

Luna - 9 year old girl; brave; believes in rituals and curses

"Einstein" Jack - 10 year old boy; smart, brave, and adventurous but doesn't believe in curses and rituals; reasonable

Captain Thrustbeard - old man; pirate; lives in abandoned shack; 89 years old

Scene 1

(The three kids, Luna, Oliver, and Einstein wash up on the shore of the beach. We hear a big thunderstorm in the background, thunder and wind and lightning. There is a shack, USL, it is a door on wheels)

Oliver:

Where are we?

Luna:

I don't know.

Einstein:

I think this is the island we saw from the boat.

Oliver:

Where's the boat?

(Everybody stands up to look around for the boat.)

Einstein:

Over there! *(Points to it)*

Luna:

Oh no! It's sinking!

Oliver:

Oh no, we're trapped! We'll never get out of here.

Einstein:

Calm down, everything's gonna be ok.

Oliver:

How are we supposed to get outta here? How are we supposed to stay calm? We're stuck on an island!!!

Luna:

Oliver, it will be ok. I'm sure our parents will come looking for us.

Oliver:

I shouldn't have listened to you, every time I listen to you something goes wrong!

Luna:

I don't know why we call you Einstein, you not even that smart, Jack!

Einstein:

Hey!!!!!!

Luna:

Hey, what?! You deserve it!

Oliver:

Ok, you two, stop fighting. We need to make a plan.

Luna:

(Under her breath)

Don't make a plan with him, unless you want it to fail.

Einstein:

You wanna say that a little louder?

Oliver:

Please stop, if we don't make a plan we'll never get out of here.

Luna & Einstein:

Ok, Ok, fine.

Oliver:

(Looks around)

Let's start with looking for something to make a raft.

Luna:

Ah, no, we need to look for shelter. And then tomorrow we can make a raft.

Einstein:

Yeah, if it stops raining. But first we should look for shelter and sleep. Almost drowning really wears you out.

Oliver:

Guys, look over there! There's a shack!

Luna & Einstein:

Let's go!!!

(The shack rolls DSC as the kids run towards it)

Scene 2

(The shack looks spooky or dangerous, old and cobwebs)

Oliver:

Actually, maybe we shouldn't go in there. It looks kinda spooky.

Luna:

Einstein, why don't you go check it out?

Einstein:

NO WAYYYYY! If it's such a good idea, why don't you go look, Luna?

Luna:

Fine, you two are being babies!
(She starts creeping towards it slowly)

Einstein:

If you're so brave, why don't you walk up faster?

Luna:

I'm, I'm brave. I'm going!

(She gets to the door and window and is peaking in, lights up inside to reveal a creepy old man in a rocking chair looking at photos of kids all over the walls inside the house! Luna comes running back.)

Luna:

Nope!

(She runs all the way past the two boys and offstage. Einstein and Oliver watch her run away.)

Einstein:

Why'd she run away?

Oliver:

I dunno! Why don't you go look, Einstein?

Einstein:

Fine, scaredy cat!

(Einstein creeps up to the front door and peeks through the window, seeing the same creepy old man and photos. Einstein pops up)

Einstein:

AAAAAAAAAAH!

(Einstein runs past Oliver and offstage. Oliver is watching Einstein run away. We hear the door creak open and Oliver turns to see the creepy old man standing at the front door. Oliver faints. Blackout!)

Scene 3

Einstein and Luna are at the edge of the island. Out of breath from running.

Luna:

Idiot! Oliver told you it looked spooky! Where he is, anyway?

Einstein:

I don't know, I thought he was right behind me!

Luna:

Oh great, another one of your bad plans!

Einstein:

If all my plans are so bad, why don't you come up with one?

Luna:

Did you see the broken glass inside the house, next to the window?

Einstein:

Yeah?

Luna:

What about we go into the house and grab the glass and stab the man in the back?

Einstein:

Well, I'm not allowed to touch or grab sharp objects! I don't think your Mom lets you do that either!

Luna:

Well, she isn't here right now. Do you have a better plan?

Einstein:

What if we just make a raft and go home?

Luna:

What about Oliver? He is your friend, right? So we should go save him? We can make the raft but we should all get out of here together!

Einstein:

How are we going to get to the old man without him seeing us?

Luna:

I could create a diversion and then you can run in and grab Oliver.

Einstein:

What's a diversion?

Luna:

Don't worry about it. You'll see what it is in a few minutes. Just make sure you get into the house and grab Oliver!

Einstein:

This better work or we're all going to be trapped in the house.

Luna:

Trust me. It will work!

Scene 4

(Oliver is tied up against the wall with the photos. Creepy old man, Captain Thrustbeard, is sitting in the chair facing the photos. Oliver starts to wake up.)

Captain Thrustbeard:

Look who finally woke up!

Oliver:

MHMHMHMHMHMH

(sounds of struggle)

Captain Thrustbeard:

It's no use, you'll never get out of those ropes. I've had years of experience. I'm Captain Thrustbeard. This island has been my home for many years. It was during a great storm that my sailboat was demolished by the Great White Shark. That's how I ended up stranded here. I spent the first two years training that Great White Shark to lead children to my island. You remember that shark? *(Oliver nods.)* Each storm brings new captives. Each photo represents a different sacrifice, a sacrifice for my dinner table. Now it's time for me to take your picture. *(He holds up a camera.)*

(Luna sneaks on DSL and begins a very loud chicken dance. Einstein sneaks up DSR, behind the house, near the broken window.)

Luna:

Hey Mr. Two by two by four hairline man, I'm over here! *(Luna is waving her arms)*

Captain Thrustbeard:

What the-? Looks like your friend came to save you!

(Captain Thrustbeard runs to catch Luna who exits SL. Einstein enters the cabin/house and uses the broken glass to cut Oliver loose)

Einstein:

Hold still. I'm here to get you out. Don't make a noise.

(During this time Luna enters DSL and exits DSR with Captain Thrustbeard chasing her.)

Oliver:

We gotta get outta here. He's eaten all these kids.

(Then Luna enters DSR and exits DSL with Captain Thrustbeard chasing her.)

Einstein:

Don't worry. Just stay calm. We aren't going to be anybody's snack.

(Einstein gets Oliver free and they run off DSL.)

Scene 5

(Luna, Einstein, Oliver, and Captain Thrustbeard are all on the beach.)

Captain Thrustbeard:

You'll never get far. My shark is patrolling the waters!

Luna:

What do you mean your shark?

Captain Thrustbeard:

She's my pet. She always follows my commands. How do you think your ship ended up destroyed?

Oliver:

It wasn't just our boat. There were a bunch of kids before us.

Einstein:

What do you mean by a bunch of kids before us?

Captain Thrustbeard:

Didn't you see all those photos in my shack?

Luna:

What happened to all those other kids?

Captain Thrustbeard:

You'll be joining them in the oven any minute now.

Luna:

We won't, but you will!!!

Captain Thrustbeard:

No one has gotten away with that before. What makes you think you three can?

Einstein:

Well, you don't have any weapons AND WE DO!!!

Captain Thurstbeard:

Weapons? Oh really? What weapons?

(Einstein pulls the glass from behind his back)

Einstein:

This!

Captain Thurstbeard:

Where did that come from?

Einstein:

Straight from your shack!!!

Captain Thrustbeard:

(Laughs condescendingly)

You think that's going to stop me?

Luna:

That's not all. We have our friendship!

(The three kids run at Thrustbeard and the Captain backs up into the ocean OSL. The three kids stop and watch.)

Captain Thrustbeard (OS):

Stop! What are you doing? You're my pet shark? *(Scream)* You listen to me!!!! *(Screams and splashing, and then silence.)*

Oliver:

Well that's one way to feed a shark.

(Hug and laugh.)

Einstein:

Now can we build that raft?

Luna:

Yes, I can't wait to go home.

(They walk off together to find materials for the raft.)

End of play.