boy girl wall Characters
By Lucas Stibbard

The Narrator – He’s pretty much a version of me who is telling this story however, he’s a bit more confident than I am in real life. He says things that I’d never dare say, but he’s pretty much me in a suit with a stick of chalk and sixty minutes on his hands.

The Alien Observer – He’s an alien who spends his time observing earth through a fantastically powerful telescope. I figured anyone who spends that much time looking at other people through a telescope is probably a bit of a pervert…

Daphne (Thom’s Mum) – We meet her for a second at Thom’s birth and then meet her again when she’s trying to convince him to have a career in I.T., not astronomy. She is trying to look after her son by encouraging him to take on a ‘safe and secure job’.

Monday – Confused and still a little tired. The way we all start the week. A day that takes a bit to get going…

Tuesday – A day of the week and a bit of a geek. He’s the kind of day that gets things done methodically. The kind of day where you pick up after the weekend and make sure everything is in order.

Wednesday – One of those painfully chipper people you want to see hurt. Wednesday is like a mix between a children’s television presenter and a personal trainer. Just far too positive in a condescending way.

Thursday – He’s old and tired. Thursday has had enough and wants it over. He is bitter, like someone who feels that the world has always done them wrong.

Friday – A scary drunk with a foul mouth. The kind of day you find hanging out in the valley trying to order a cab at 3am, a cigarette hanging out of it’s mouth and a can of larger in it’s hand. If days had haircuts, Friday would have a mullet.

Thom (Thomas Thompson Jr, or to be more accurate Thomas Thompson the 83,333rd or thereabouts) – Thom is the boy from the title and one of the two protagonists. He is a dreamer who wants to be an astronomer, but has settled for a boring job in I.T. He doesn’t pay attention to many important things and puts a little too much stock in tabloid horoscopes.

Melvin Ellis – Mel is Thom’s boss at the unnamed government department where they work. Mel is the worst sort of boss. He wants to be your friend, whilst spouting middle-management jargon. To make matters worse he fancies himself as an entertainer.

Demis Papadopolous – Alethea’s Dad. He moved over from Greece in the 70’s and met Alethea’s mum, the unfortunately named Kathleen Whitehead, at a disco in Brisbane. We meet him in his 20’s (the night he meets Kathleen actually). He’s a bit of a dancer (he loves The Hustle) and is very friendly.

Kathleen Whitehead – Alethea’s Mum, a quiet and mousy girl from the suburbs, who is swept off her feet by Demis’ smooth moves and terrible lines. She is nervous and shy.

www.dramaqueensland.org.au/boygirlwall © Copyright 2010
Alethea Jones – The girl of the title. Alethea is a pretty no-nonsense person, whilst at the same time being a complete wreck when it comes to organising her own life. She’s a writer and illustrator. She suffers from chronic writers block.

Dave the Computer – Neurotic, paranoid and tired of Alethea taking out her writer’s block on him. Dave is in love with Alethea, but is afraid she hates him.

Marko Grosetti – Alethea’s publisher. He’s a bit bland and is one of those tanned, buff, good-looking people with no personality or originality. His interests are always self-centred and he’s a typical middle-man. He makes money off art - without being creative or useful. He’s also a bit gross. He ogles Alethea and can’t be bothered to learn how to say her name.

The Magpie of Montague Road – Based on an actual magpie that terrorised Montague road for quite a few years before falling prey to a truck. He’s the meanest, most evil bird in the world. The play suggests that he may indeed be demonically possessed.

One-Eyed William McCabbie – A sixty-seven year old, one-eyed Scotsman who has a vendetta against the Magpie of Montague Road. He’s like a Scottish version of Van Helsing from Dracula. He rescues Alethea from the magpie.

The Wall – A romantic, young dividing wall between Alethea’s and Thom’s apartments. He’s a bit wide-eyed and is an idealist. He is naive and sweet. There’s lots of literary and theatrical examples of love stories involving boys, girls and walls. Of particular influence here are Pyramus and Thisbee and Les Romanesques. There are versions of both of those stories that contain personifications of walls as well – the mechanicals play in Midsummer Night’s Dream and the musical the Fantastiks; which actually contains the line, ‘...a boy, a girl, two fathers and a wall’.

The Ceiling – Self-centred and a bit of a martyr.

The Floor – A bit bolshy and tired of being walked all over.

Sock Thom – Thom, in a dream as a sock. An exaggerated version of Thom.

Terry the CI from CBT – The big boss at Thom’s work. Loud and scary.

Sock Winona – A girl in Thom’s dream, dressed as Winona Ryder at a party.

The Power-box – The fuse and meter box of the apartment complex that Alethea and Thom live in. A thinker, prone to taking on the big questions of life and grappling with some heavy concepts. He spends too much time alone and could probably do with some distractions.

Door 1 – The door to Thom’s apartment. Practical and on top of things.

Door 2 – Alethea’s door. Overly picky and a bit of a pain.

Spirulina Riverhawk – A creative self-help and spiritual guru. A fraud and a complete waste of air. The kind of person who writes books about being successfully creative, without having created anything tangible themselves. Way too ‘hippy’ and probably thinks Patchouli Oil hides odours and that crystals can heal you.

Alan Rack – A strange, strange man. He probably still lives with his mum (but in a granny-flat). Alan is nice enough in a weird way. He has odd ideas about hygiene and what other people find interesting or acceptable. I imagine a lot of folk who spend too much time playing World of Warcraft and surfing porn could end up like Alan.