**WAYNE:**

***A normal guy who wants to stand out and have others think he is special***

Question. Hypothetical. What if I don't have enough of a personality for the magic talking hat to sort me? Like...how much authority does this hat really have? Never mind. ...This place is crazy huh? I never thought I'd go to school in a castle. Pretty cool. I've never really liked school. People were mean. To me. I'm talking too much. You probably have all your own nervous thoughts going on... Can I tell you something? I think I might be...special? I watch a lot of movies and read lots of books, and it's like: a normal boy finds out he actually has amazing abilities and is swept away to a new, magical world? Does that sound familiar? Because that is now my ACTUAL life. And THAT kid, through some incredible circumstances always becomes like the most important person. Like in the whole world. A sort of...Chosen One. AHH! Magic is real, and this orphaned boy wizard is ready for seven years of amazing adventures!

**WAYNE – 2**

Headmaster… this… this seems really unfair. I just watched my friends die. And now me? What was the point? I won’t be remembered for anything. No one will know my name. I’m just some… unnamed dead kid in a school battle. POTTER’s battle. He gets to be the hero. He gets to be everything I ever wanted. Why did I have to be so… unimportant?

**LEANNE**

***Leanne is bubbly, excited, and so proud of her Puffness*.**

No! I don’t want to leave. Why is everyone always so down on us? I won’t stand for it anymore! And I won’t sit for it either. And I also won’t stand on one leg because I can’t. Watch. Anyways. Look at your hand! You have a wand! Unless you looked at your other hand. Look at yourselves! Hannah! You used to be so awkward. And you still are, but we don’t mind anymore!

Who’s that? It’s Ernie Mac. And he is basically the best. And Sally. Remember that time you did that thing? It was amazing! Susie! We all thought you’d be dead by now. But look at you, standing there, alive. Wayne. You give the best hugs. Megan! You give better hugs than you think you do. And J. Finch. He’s imaginary, AND HE CAN DO MAGIC! We all can. We’re wizards. So sure. It would be easy to leave. But wouldn’t it be wrong? We should do what’s right. Like Cedric. I’m a Puff and I’m staying, because if we don’t fight now we may never find out how that hat talks!

**CEDRIC:**

***a very popular kid, a bit of a rockstar in the Puff house, but not the sharpest tool in the shed***

You know what the best part of being a Puff is, besides being so close to the kitchens? You fail. A lot. You fail and fail. You fail over here. You fail over there. And then you fail a lot more. But failure, Wayne, is just another form of practice. As long as you never stop trying. So… try again… How about this? To thank you for all your support, once the Third Task is done, I’ll teach you everything I know.

**CEDRIC - 2**

And my name…is Cedric. Thanks. Now gather round. Don’t be shy.

Welcome to the Puffs! Just a few things to get you acquainted to the school. First, the stars move. Don’t freak out. Just breathe. Second…the Puffs don’t exactly have the best reputation here. People will make jokes about you. Or throw food at you. Or they might curse you. In fact, here is a list of curses you can expect to be hit by at some point in the next week. But none of that matters. Because really, we’re a bunch of nice, fun, happy people. Also, badgers.

Badgers are great!

**MEGAN JONES:**

I never wanted to be a Puff. Every member of my family? Puffs. We’re like THE Puff family. But I’ve always known I was different. There’s nothing even special about Puffs. Loyalty? Being really nice? A bunch of lame, awful failures doomed to be stupid walking personality-less nobodies that no one will ever care about ever? Ugh. My mom was a Puff. But she was different. She became something bigger. She made the name Jones finally mean something other than a bunch of… Puffs! I thought… I knew… I would be different too. But after all of my hard work to make myself not a Puff, what do you know? The hat puts me with the Puffs. I did everything. I mean, I even changed my accent just so I wouldn’t sound like my Puff family.

**NARRATOR**

**NARRATOR**: Heroes. Made. Not born. Except, sometimes...they are born.

On a gloomy night, in a far away, magical land called: England.

*(Behind them A Very Tall Man with a big beard and some goggles appears holding a very, very special baby. The First Headmaster, old, kind, and gentle, enters with him. They admire this heroic, special, really, really important baby boy. The Narrator spots them.)*

**NARRATOR**: Ah! A giant! Aw, a baby. His parents: dead. But he lives. He is the boy who lives. He has a scar. On his forehead. Shaped like...you know. You get it? You are familiar with this boy? Well.

Forget about him. This story is not about him.

*(From seemingly nowhere, another baby appears carried by someone far less impressive, with somewhere far better to be.)*

**NARRATOR:** Ah! Another orphan. His parents: also dead. Killed in a freak chocolate frog accident. Please, don’t ask. This boy is whisked away to live with his uncle in the even more magical land of Cattlepoke Springs, New Mexico. Where...the boy grows up!

*(Through the power of magic, the baby grows up into eleven-yearold Wayne Hopkins. He is playing a classic Nintendo Gameboy. Uncle Dave finishes his eleven-year-long exclamation.)*

**NARRATOR** (Continued)**:** And up until a few weeks ago, this now eleven-year-old boy had only the regular problems of a child in 1991. And before he knew it, after a confusing train station experience... Wayne found himself at the gates of a certain school of female magic and male magic. Where he would spend the next seven years. Tonight! We will be taking an incredibly in-depth look at those seven years. Over the next five hours split into two parts—

What?! 90-ish minutes?! Oh. Tonight! We will take...a look at those seven years. Seven years that were, in one word, eventful. It begins as these stories tend to begin...WITH A SORTING

**HARRY**

***Perhaps Harry doesn’t actually possess the heroic qualities he is so famous for.***

Say ... remember the First Task? That was pretty crazy. At first, I was like, “oh no”, butthen I was like “broom!” And then I was like “vroom vroom”, but then the dragon broke off hischain and chased me all around the school and almost killed a bunch of people. Hahaha ...ahhh. Remember that? Feels like ages ago. Bye, Wayne! Cedric, look out for that dragon!Just kidding.

**MISTER VOLDY**

***is the embodiment of evil***

So. Since we’re on the verge of our victory to be remembered for all dark ages to come, pats on the back by the way, I’ve been working on some fun one liners to say when we vanquish our great teenage enemy, Potter. Maybe I can try some out, so you can see how fun thy are - eh hem. “Boy who lived? How about the boy who’s dead now? HA!” “Nice second scar - the one that’s on your whole body - since I killed you.” “Mother’s love your way out of that!” Or my favorite -“Loser says Avada what -” he says, “What” - “KEDABRA!” - then he dies. What? The megaphone is still on? Really? Oh my. I am just having a day, aren’t I? YAH! Harry!

**XAVIA:**

HAHAHA! Hello, children! Ooo, look. Another one. Hello, there. Megan, now that I’m free, I think it’s time I take you far away from here, just the two of us. But – oh, no. We have a problem. I’ve been watching you, Megan.

*These two* – are your friends? I’m disappointed, Megan. Disappointed in *you*. I come all this way, and what is it I see standing before me? I see a Puff. That’s all you are, isn’t it? You’re just another *Puff!* I will do what I must.

*Avada ... kebaba! Avada ... kedoober! Abrakadabrabra! Brahhh! BRAHHH!* No. Hmm. Don’t look at me like that. I’ve done this before. I’ve *done it.* The Dark Lord himself recruited me! And I got a free tattoo. Awesome.

**ZACH:**

Zach Smith here. You want to play sports? Alright. Before we get started, I just have to share something that’s been happening to me. Get it off my chest. So. We all know how we can do the spell thing where a glowing little white animal jumps out and scampers around – and those weird security dweebs hate it. They hate those animals.

You know, it’s supposed to represent something about you, answer a lot of questions. SO. After years of hard work – PRACTICE, which is IMPORTANT – I finally did it. I did the spell. But my little animal, well ... it isn’t an animal. Turns out, my special animal thing is a 45-year old accountant named Debra, who lives as a single mom in a small town in Oklahoma with her two kids. And she is so inconvenienced every time I use that spell.

She’s just here now, at this magic school in Europe. I don’t know how to get her back home. So, it turns into a whole *ordeal*, she has to book a flight or take a boat. I think she’s running out of money, which usually she’s *very* good with. I can’t help but feel a tiny bit responsible, you know. But – and here’s where the story takes a twist – I think I’m falling in love with her. I don’t know what to do. Do I tell her how I feel? I keep bringing her here just to see her, but that just makes her mad. I know I may just be a sixteen-year-old boy who’s also a wizard, and she’s 45, and has her own life, but I think there’s really something special there. What do I do? What do I do? ANYWAY, let’s start these tryouts.

**LEANNE:**

No! I don’t want to leave. Why is everyone always so down on us? I won’t stand for it anymore! And I won’t sit for it either. And I also won’t stand on one leg because I can’t. Watch. Anyways. Look at your hand! You have a wand! Unless you looked at your other hand. Look at yourselves! Hannah. You used to be so awkward. And you still are, but we don’t mind anymore! And Sally. Remember the time you did that thing?! Susie! We all thought you’d be dead by now. But look at you, standing there, alive. Wayne. You give the best hugs. Megan! You give better hugs than you think you do. And J. Finch, HE CAN DO MAGIC! We all can. We’re wizards. So, sure. It would be easy to leave. But wouldn’t it be wrong? We should do what’s right. Like Cedric. I’m a Puff, and I’m staying, because if we don’t fight now, we may never find out how that hat talks!

**HELGA:**

Students who are brave, students who are smart, and students who always speak like they’re going to throw a glass of wine in your face – and *my* house will be for the students who are ... um ... well ... I’ll take the rest of them. Because as long as they are willing to work hard, everybody should have a place here. Sure, their skill levels will be all over the place, *but that’s okay.* There’s always a time to improve. This is a school, right? So, yes. Being brave or smart or – snakes, is great. But ... why be one thing when you can be *everything else?* Yes? Yes. Now, where did my cup get off to? Cup? Cup?!

**CHARACTER SNIPPETS**

*Most actors in Puffs will play several roles, so we are looking for actors who have the ability to quickly switch from one comedic character role to another. Bold vocal and physical choices are encouraged.*

**XAVIA JONES *(evil, crazy, dangerous)*** - I want you to hurt them. Torture them. Kill them, maybe? Prove to me that you are my daughter.

**MYRTLE *(quirky, unpredictable, odd ghost with a very distinctive voice)* -** Goodbye, Cedric. Think of me every time you see a toilet. Waaaaahhhhhhhhh!

**A CERTAIN POTIONS TEACHER *(slimy, sinister, mean, demanding)*** - You are the most dunderheaded students I have ever seen sit in my class. If you manage to succeed in my course this year, I will eat a shoe. Ten points from the Puffs.

**UNCLE DAVE *(Distant, goofy, not ready for parenthood)*** Oh my Gawd! I forgot to tell you.

Yer a Wizard, Wayne! …Also, wizards exist! … and you are one. Just like your British parents.

Oh right! Yer parents were British! Wow. We gotta talk more. Come on, I’ll drive ya to the

airport!