DragonSoul Offline by Samantha Miller

Devon is a leader when he plays DragonSoul with his friends online, but in the real world he is much less confident—even feeling like he has to lie to impress a girl he likes. Here, Devon's friend finds him after his lie backfires.

Scene 7

(HAMID is running around the halls, or maybe skipping, yelling way outside of what’s considered an “indoor voice”.)

HAMID: Devon! Devon, WHERE ARE YOU! DEVAAAAAHAHAHAHAHAHNNN—oh there you are.

(He finds DEVON slouched down in a corner, by himself, looking nonplussed.)

HAMID: Hey dude, what are you doing over here! The club meeting is in the library today.

DEVON: (Quietly:) I’m not going.

HAMID: Why not?

(DEVON doesn’t answer.)

HAMID: Is it because you’re having an emo moment in your little emo corner?

DEVON: Shut up, I’m not having an emo moment.

HAMID: Then why aren’t you coming to the meeting? The Winter Dance is TOMORROW—

DEVON: Because! Sade hates me!

(Beat.)

That’s why I’m not going.

HAMID: Pfft! Sade doesn’t hate you. She’s the one that told me to come find you! She said that you said that you were coming to the meeting so she said that I should—

DEVON: She does hate me. She’s just being nice. I’m not going. My mom’s coming to pick me up soon.

HAMID: Dude, why would she hate you? You literally just met her yesterday.

DEVON: She hates me because I lied to her face. Okay?

HAMID: Whoa! Um, not okay! Why would you do that?

DEVON: (Bursting:) Because I’m a loser, Hamid! And that’s what losers do! We do stupid things like lying about playing soccer so that people like Sade will think we’re good at life, when really we’re just sad and scared all the time! That’s why! Are you happy now?
(HAMID is unshaken by his upset. He slowly sits down next to DEVON, who’s starting to open up.)

DEVON: I wish I could be more like how I am online. You know? I wouldn’t pretend to be cool. When I’m playing DragonSoul I feel like I know what I’m doing. I can do whatever I want, go wherever I want, I’m strong, I’m smart, everyone follows my lead. In real life I’m just… a nobody. If Sade knew me as EPIC_KING, she’d like me. But I’m not like that at all.

HAMID: Well, I know you as both EPIC_KING and as Devon. And, besides the armor and sword, you guys are totally the same.

DEVON: Yeah, right.

HAMID: Okay, maybe he’s a little taller, too. Listen, I could tell when I introduced you to Sade that you had a crush on her. But I don’t think you have to lie or pretend to be cool to get Sade to like you back. I think anybody would like the real version of you. And I think the “you” online and the “you” in real life are the same “you.”

DEVON: No way. Not even close.

(From offstage: BEEP BEEP! A car horn.)

DEVON: (Standing:) That’s my mom. Two honks means I’ve got 30 seconds before she drives away. See you online.

HAMID: Hey! Don’t skip out on club meeting tomorrow, okay? We’re all gonna have to work together to set up the Winter Dance. The whole team. Sounds like something you’d do as EPIC, doesn’t it?

DEVON: …Sure. Whatever, I’ll be there. Tell Sade I’m sorry about today.

(DEVON exits. HAMID watches him go, confident he’ll do the right thing. Somewhere, a PARTY MEMBER uses a reviving spell on the wounded EPIC_KING323 and helps him to his next adventure.)

End of Scene

DRAGONSOUL OFFLINE by Samantha Miller

Length: 60 minutes  Cast Size: 12-45 actors (9F. 9M, 7 any)  Genre: Comedy

Synopsis: Devon is split between the online world of battling dragons and the real world of battling middle school. To him, there’s nothing worse than logging off from his party of friends and enduring another lonely and mundane day of 7th grade. When the student body president (and girl of his dreams) takes notice of Devon’s natural leadership abilities in a time of need, Devon starts to wonder if maybe some of what makes him so epic online can also make the real world a little more interesting... An action-packed play split between two different worlds and two different personas shows us how one smart kid discovers his true superpower.

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