

Stop Kiss by Diana Son

Synopsis:

Sara and Callie are walking through New York City's West Village very late at night, when they share their first kiss. This leads to a vicious attack by an angry bystander, in which Sara is horribly injured. She falls into a coma, which becomes one of the major subjects of the play. George, Callie's good friend, tries to help with the situation, but there is little he can do. Peter, Sara's ex-boyfriend from St. Louis, comes to help nurse her back to health. Throughout Stop Kiss, relationships are explored, formed, and even ended. Diana Son elaborates on the depths of human emotion and compassion in this play.

The story is told out of chronological order: alternating scenes take place respectively before and after the assault, which is not shown onstage.

Characters:

(ages refer to the character's age)

Callie Pax (late 20s to early 30s)

Callie works as a traffic reporter in New York City, where she has lived for eleven years. Callie helps Sara learn her way around the city, and, in the process, develops strong feelings for her. When Callie and Sara are attacked, Callie sustains only minor injuries and, along with Peter, nurses Sara back to health.

Sara (mid 20s to early 30s)

Sara, who recently moved to NYC from St. Louis to accept a teaching fellowship at an elementary school in The Bronx, looks to Callie to learn how to fit in while in the Big Apple. When Callie and Sara are attacked in the park after their first kiss, Sara is injured, and falls into a coma, where she remains for some time.

George (late 20s to early 30s)

George is Callie's "friend with benefits." He works as a bartender in the city, and is jealous of Sara's relationship with Callie.

Peter (mid 20s to early 30s)

Peter is Sara's ex-boyfriend from St. Louis. Once he heard Sara was in the hospital, he came down to New York to see her. Peter is still in love with Sara.

Mrs. Winsley (early 40's to early 50's (doubles as "the nurse"))

Mrs. Winsley is a witness to the attack against Sara and Callie. She is interrogated by Detective Cole. The actress who plays this role usually also plays the part of Sara's nurse.

Detective Cole (late 30s to mid 40s)

Detective Cole is the detective assigned to Callie and Sara's case. He is the first to hear the story of what happened to Callie and Sara the night they were attacked.