llThe following monologue is taken from *Speech & Debate* by Stephen Karam:

Background: Diwata is narrating her thoughts to a laptop for her online diary.

**DIWATA**: Welcome to the first podcast entry of my diary, updated daily at monoblog.com. Let’s hear it from my band - that’s Casio in the background. Casio’s been programmed to play the only three chords I know over and over while I improvise a new song, live, before your ears, America. Ideally, the music would be a little more interesting, but I can’t play and sing at the same time, and I have no friends to help me out. “But Diwata,” you’re saying to yourselves, “You’re so odd and frumpy - you must have friends.” But no, I don’t. All I have is my music.

The upcoming auditions for this year’s spring musical were the inspiration for this live, streaming musical entry. My high school will be doing the timeless classic *Once Upon a Mattress*, and this year, like every other year, I will not get cast because of my talentless drama teacher. But this year, I think American should decide whether or not I get to showcase my skills in North Salem High’s multipurpose room.