

# BLIND

Libretto by  
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## CHARACTER PROFILES

### BLIND GIRL

**Voice type:** Mezzosoprano

**The main features of the character:** Insecure, anxious, confused, lost, a dreamer

**Description:** The character introduces different states of emotions including confusion, fatigue, anger, fear, despair etc. In her fantasy world, the girl evokes a wilder equivalent of herself, the Alter-Ego. They both fantasize about the doctor and his scent. The girl does not distinguish between the real world and the fantasy world, dreaming about her secret meetings with the doctor.

### ALTER-EGO

**Voice type:** Soprano

**The main features of the character:** self-aware, confident, sensual, temptress

**Description:** A wilder equivalent of the blind girl.

Alter-ego is always present in the girl's fantasy world. They both establish a dialogue. Alter-ego introduces the girl into her senses and encourages her to become a wilder version of herself.

### DOCTOR

**Voice type:** Baritone

**The main features of the character:** Professional approach to work, conscientious, keeping a distance, reasonable, objective

**Description:** The doctor is the stereotype of the perfect man from the girl's fantasy. He appears both in the scenes in the hospital, where he takes care of the girl by giving her medications as in the girl's fantasy world as a tall, handsome brunette. The doctor himself keeps a safe distance approaching his duties professionally.

### PATIENT

**Voice type:** Soprano

**The main features of the character:** Curious, manipulative, intrusive, temperamental, jealous. She derives satisfaction from controlling people and situations.

**Description:** The patient derives satisfaction from treating people as puppets and observing the actions happening in the hospital. The woman is clearly interested in the girl and notices her fascination with the doctor. She manipulates facts, describing the doctor's appearance in a very different way to what we see.

*The action takes place in the hospital room.*

*The bed should be placed in the middle.*

*The girl should wear the blindfold in all scenes except those in which the difference is indicated.*

**1.**

**THE GIRL** *sleeps but her body behaves as if were conscious.*

**DOCTOR** and **PATIENT** are watching **THE GIRL**.

**THE GIRL** *screams, then begins to mumble.*

**DOCTOR**

For how long?

**PATIENT**

Days, nights, hours.

**THE GIRL** *changes position.*

Wha-

Why-

Whe-

**PATIENT**

She is talking to someone -

**THE GIRL**

Where-

*Inhales the air deeply.*

**DOCTOR**

*Makes note in the notebook.*

Hallucinations.

**THE GIRL**

Me-

**THE GIRL** screams.

**PATIENT**

She talks about -

**THE GIRL**

Empty corridors-

*Pause.*

Crossroads out-of-order-

*Pause.*

A paper fabric fusion

with rubbery latex

and urine.

**DOCTOR**

*Makes note in the notebook.*

Disorganized thoughts.

**THE GIRL**

Whe-

When-

Where?

*Pause.*

Here?

**PATIENT**

She's having a nightmare.

**THE GIRL**

Ca- (*the word catches in her throat*)

Cannot.

**DOCTOR**

*Makes note in the notebook.*

Delusions.

**THE GIRL** screams.

**PATIENT**

All night long.

**THE GIRL**

I can't sleep surrounded by ...

**DOCTOR**

*Makes note in the notebook.*

Inability to sleep or eat.

**THE GIRL**

All these plastic tubes  
and the combination of  
disinfectants,  
beeping machines  
and stale food  
makes me feel...

**DOCTOR**

*Makes note in the notebook.*

Persistent discomfort.

**THE GIRL**

Can anybody fix the light here?

**PATIENT**

I've tried to  
wake her up,  
wake her up,  
but she's...

**THE GIRL** screams.

*Blackout.*

2.

**THE GIRL** *is sleeping.*

**ALTER-EGO** *watches the girl from a distance holding a silver tray with two eyeballs on it.*

**ALTER-EGO**

*Repeats over and over quietly.*

Nice eyes, who will you give them to?

**THE GIRL** *woken up by the sound of ALTER-EGO's voice.*

*She looks around anxiously, examining the space. She touches her eyes, discovers the blindfold, but she does not take it off.*

**THE GIRL**

Is there anybody

there?

Who-

*Looks towards the voice source.*

Who are you?

**ALTER-EGO**

You.

**THE GIRL**

Me?

**ALTER-EGO**

You.

**THE GIRL**

You are me.

**ALTER-EGO**

I am us.

**THE GIRL**

Us?

**THE GIRL + ALTER-EGO**

Us.

**ALTER-EGO**

I am you...

**THE GIRL**

...and I am you.

Where am I?

**ALTER-EGO**

Where are we...

**THE GIRL + ALTER-EGO**

Where are we?

**ALTER-EGO**

Here.

**THE GIRL**

No colours or reflections.

**ALTER-EGO**

They have just stopped working...

*Indicates the eyes on tray.*

...your eyes.

**THE GIRL**

Our eyes...

**THE GIRL + ALTER-EGO**

... are damaged.

**THE GIRL**

... have been stolen.

**ALTER-EGO**

*Grabs the eyes, puts the tray away.*

I can see you.

**THE GIRL**

You can see me?

I open my eyes, but I can't see;

I move my head, but nothing changes.

**ALTER-EGO**

*Tries the eyeballs as if they were hers.*

These are useless.

*Shrugs in confusion.*

**THE GIRL**

No colours here,

No shapes.

**THE GIRL + ALTER-EGO**

No triangles or squares.

**THE GIRL**

No light here,

No shades.

**THE GIRL + ALTER-EGO**

Nothing to see here.

*THE GIRL rips off the blindfold.*

*ALTER-EGO throws the eyeballs to the ground.*

*Blackout.*

3.

*Spotlight on the bed.*

**THE DOCTOR** *appears with a tray with a glass of water and medicine on it.*

**THE GIRL** *wakes up slowly and realizes that someone is in the room.*

**DOCTOR**

You've been struggling to sleep.

**THE GIRL** *sniffs the space around.*

The **DOCTOR** *leans over THE GIRL and removes the blindfold slowly.*

**DOCTOR**

You've been talking to someone.

**THE GIRL**

*Confused.*

Who...

The **DOCTOR** *examines THE GIRL's eyes with a beam of light.*

**DOCTOR**

Redness in both eyes-

White marks on the pupils-

*Makes note in the notebook.*

**THE GIRL**

Who are you?

**DOCTOR**

You need to sleep.

**THE GIRL**

Doctor?

***DOCTOR** replaces the blindfold.*

**DOCTOR**

Your eyes are damaged.

Your eyes need to recover.

**THE GIRL**

Why?

Me-

Here?

**DOCTOR**

Drink this.

It will help you to relax.

*Pushes the tray forward.*

***THE GIRL** sniffs around confused.*

Whe-

**DOCTOR**

It's on your left.

***THE GIRL** inhales the air deeply and reaches for a drink.*

**THE GIRL**

A curtain has come down

over one eye.

The other

filled up

with black ink.

***THE GIRL** inhales his scent deeply and takes the medicine.*

*Blackout.*

4.

*ALTER-EGO guides THE GIRL through her senses.*

*It takes the form of a slow dance of their hands.*

*They both sit on the bed.*

**ALTER-EGO + THE GIRL**

Follow your ears;

Follow your taste;

Follow your touch;

Follow your sense of smell.

**THE GIRL**

They used to say

black suits me,

but I am not sure

it really does...

**ALTER-EGO**

Learning to eat

with your

nose and ears

takes time.

**THE GIRL**

Too hard for now.

**ALTER-EGO**

Imagine you're eating something delicious...

**THE GIRL**

A juicy orange,

orange-yellow,  
orange-red.  
I would prefer  
something strong  
with a gourmet note-

**ALTER-EGO**

Intense and exotic.

**THE GIRL**

The doctor –  
His smell;  
His scent –  
balsamic and aromatic.

**ALTER-EGO**

Eau d'Orange Verte.

**THE GIRL**

Out of my league-

**ALTER-EGO**

Bite him first,  
judge later.

**THE GIRL**

I feel very hungry now.

**ALTER-EGO**

The doctor's scent stimulates your appetite.

**THE GIRL**

He was smiling at me, he was very kind.

**ALTER-EGO**

The kind of man who stays out of reach;

**THE GIRL**

Maybe he is shy,  
or maybe  
high-and-mighty.

**ALTER-EGO**

A mandarin aperitif must taste delicious.

**THE GIRL**

Maybe he is tall,  
or maybe  
blue eyed.

**ALTER-EGO**

A rough candy with a soft surprise centre.

*Rings a bell and **THE DOCTOR (as waiter)** brings in  
elegant silver tray with a cover dish.*

Slow cooked beef with roasted chestnuts  
delivered straight into your  
bedroom.

***THE DOCTOR*** reveals a plate with a big orange on it.

**THE GIRL**

I didn't order anything.

**ALTER-EGO**

Give it a try.

***THE GIRL*** takes a plate, the ***DOCTOR*** leaves the stage.

**THE GIRL**

One slice only.

**ALTER-EGO**

Once you said  
your man tasted like  
chateaubriand,  
you couldn't get enough of him.  
You just wanted to  
eat him up.

***THE GIRL*** cuts a large piece of orange and eats it passionately chewing slowly and widely.

***ALTER-EGO*** fades into the background.

*Blackout.*

5.

***THE GIRL** sits on her bed trying to read book in a braille.*

***THE DOCTOR** appears in the room with the tray with glass of water and medicine on it.*

**DOCTOR**

Good to see you're making progress.

***THE GIRL** takes a deep inhale and recognizes the smell.*

**DOCTOR**

I brought your medicine.

The **DOCTOR** removes the blindfold to examine **THE GIRL**'s eyes with a beam of light.

**THE GIRL**

It's amazing that six dots  
are enough to understand  
the content...

*Touches the book.*

***DOCTOR** makes a note in the notebook and replaces the blindfold.*

**DOCTOR**

It's on your left.

*Pushes the tray forward.*

**THE GIRL** reaches **DOCTOR**'s face and draws shapes lovingly.

**THE GIRL**

By touch,  
I connect dots  
creating  
a new shape.  
Through smell,  
I complete the picture.  
*Inhales his scent deeply.*

*DOCTOR pushes away her hand gently and turns his back.*

**DOCTOR**

Your eyes need to recover.

**THE GIRL**

Can you tell me what happened to me, doctor?

**DOCTOR**

*Avoids the question.*

You've been talking a lot in your sleep.

**THE GIRL**

Can you tell me how I got here, doctor?

**DOCTOR**

Your sight-  
you lost it somewhere along the way.

**THE GIRL**

Have I lost it forever?

*Long pause. Blackout.*

6.

The **PATIENT** is now in the same room.

**PATIENT**

You like him, don't you?

*Pause.*

Nice to meet you too.

*Pause.*

**THE GIRL** gets out of the bed.

Feel like going for a walk?

*Pause.*

Let's stay here, we can talk.

You aren't very talkative, are you?

*Her self-phone rings.*

My dad is calling -

He likes to know

where I am

and with whom.

*Rejects the call.*

You aren't very talkative, are you?

**THE GIRL** is groping, touching everything that stands in her way.

**PATIENT**

I bet you'd like to run out and find him, wouldn't you?

*Pause.*

The stag on the loose  
can't be found  
easily.

*Laughs.*

Who would have thought  
such a small inconspicuous man  
could be found  
so attractive?

*Pause.*

Not much of the stag-

*Laughs.*

Ah, but you're blind-  
What the eye doesn't see, the heart doesn't grieve after.  
Not true, apparently.

*The phone is ringing again.*

He likes to call over and over.

*Rejects the call.*

But are you all right, sweetheart?  
Looks like you can't find a way out.

*Pause.*

Don't worry my friend, my eyes will see for you.  
I'll lend them to you if you ask nicely.

*The girl stops in her tracks.*

*Blackout.*

7.

*Spotlight on the bed.*

**THE GIRL** and **THE ALTER-EGO** sit together face to face in the semi-darkness.

**THE GIRL**

Do you trust her?

**ALTER-EGO**

Whom?

**THE GIRL**

The woman next to me?

**ALTER-EGO**

*Looks towards the other bed.*

Her?

**THE GIRL**

She talked about the doctor,  
described him in detail.

**ALTER-EGO**

She's lying.

**THE GIRL**

Her eyes can see much more  
than we do...

**ALTER-EGO**

She's lying.

**THE GIRL**

Her eyes can...

*Simultaneously:*

See-

*Pause.*

**ALTER-EGO**

Lie-

**ALTER-EGO**

Never trust your eyes -

**THE GIRL+ ALTER-EGO**

Always trust your intuition.

*Blackout.*

**8.**

***THE PATIENT** now wearing a shiny dress, sings sensually like as if she were a soloist in a club.*

*She holds a Rubik's cube in her hand.*

*The words in the aria should be repeated in a similar way to someone, who is playing repetitively with a toy like a mantra.*

**PATIENT**

When it's dark, when it's grey,  
it's nice to play the Rubik's cube  
to solve the patterns  
of the colours and the squares.  
It's nice to rotate and rotate  
the Rubik's cube  
in your hands,  
and make sure  
It comes out right  
in the end.  
It's nice to rotate and rotate  
the Rubik's cube-  
It's nice to rotate and rotate,  
until it comes out  
the right  
colour and pattern  
in the end.

*Blackout.*

9.

***THE GIRL** sits in front of the mirror getting ready to go out. She is still wearing the blindfold.*

***ALTER-EGO** is helping her with her makeup.*

**ALTER-EGO**

*Suggests lipstick.*

Try jungle red.

**THE GIRL**

Reserved for special ones only.

**ALTER-EGO**

You mean for the doctor?

**THE GIRL**

*Laughs.*

I'm burning slowly -

**ALTER-EGO**

Always try harder;

A fluffy mane awakes

wild instincts.

**THE GIRL**

*Faces the mirror and touches her face.*

***THE GIRL** improves hair and gets up. Walks towards the clothes-rail.*

***ALTER-EGO** follows her.*

**ALTER-EGO**

*Indicates the outfits.*

Red is stimulating,

Orange shows openness.

Pink is the colour of love and femininity,

Blue increases the mystery.

**THE GIRL**

*Turns back and sits in front of the mirror.*

Do I need eyeliner?

**ALTER-EGO**

*Help the girl with her make-up.*

Use crush matte blush  
and highlighter palette.

**THE GIRL**

Do you think this will encourage him?

**ALTER-EGO**

I can't keep my eyes off you.

**THE GIRL**

*Repeats alter-ego movements.*

I start from scratch.

Then I complete the picture.

***THE DOCTOR** appears slowly in the distance as she imagines him.*

*He's off duty, in casual clothes.*

**ALTER-EGO**

Oh, he's here,  
just as we imagined-

*Picks up a box with red lipsticks and reads what is  
written on it.*

In the event of fire break the glass-

**THE GIRL**

*Breaks the glass and takes a lipstick.*

Intense like cherry-

*Applies the lipstick in a hurry.*

**ALTER-EGO**

*Leads the girl to the doctor.*

We all deserve a love scene.

Now we can have it

if we ask kindly.

*Pushes the girl into the doctor's arms.*

**THE GIRL** *is flustered.*

**ALTER-EGO**

*Stands behind the doctor's back.*

Put your hands around his neck,

and follow the pattern:

Slow-slow-quick-quick-slow

Slow-slow-quick-quick-slow

Heartbeat-

**DOCTOR**

*Using stethoscope.*

102 beats per minute.

**ALTER-EGO + DOCTOR**

Dopamine.

**ALTER-EGO**

*Guides the girl's hands.*

Hair, neck, lips...

Cheeks?

*Puts the girl's hands on the doctor's butt.*

**ALTER-EGO + DOCTOR**

134 beats per minute.

**DOCTOR**

Norepinephrine.

**ALTER-EGO**

*Introduces them into tango moves and rhythms.*

1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8

*Repeats over and over.*

**THE GIRL**

*Repeats the pattern slowly.*

**DOCTOR**

160 beats per minute.

**ALTER-EGO + DOCTOR**

Phenylethylamine.

**ALTER-EGO**

*Continues.*

1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8

**DOCTOR**

172 beats per minute.

**ALTER-EGO + DOCTOR**

Epinephrine.

**THE GIRL+ALTER-EGO**

*Repeat the pattern.*

Slow-slow-quick-quick-slow

Slow-slow-quick-quick-slow

**DOCTOR**

Endorphins.

**ALTER-EGO + DOCTOR+ THE GIRL**

*Dance together.*

1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8

**ALTER-EGO + DOCTOR**

Serotonin.

**ALTER-EGO**

Heartbeat-

**ALTER-EGO + DOCTOR**

200.

*Heartbeat rhythm.*

**THE DOCTOR** takes **THE GIRL's** hand and leads her towards the bathtub.

*They undress each other.*

10.

*THE GIRL and THE DOCTOR relax in a bathtub facing a starry sky.*

*THE DOCTOR removes her blindfold.*

*THE GIRL's eyes accustom to the light slowly.*

**THE GIRL**

Are you real?

*Examines his face very slowly with her hands.*

Pinch me!

You're just my dream.

*Looks at her hands in disbelief,*

*examines their shape, colour and texture.*

**DOCTOR**

Are you all right?

You fell asleep-

I didn't want to intervene.

**THE GIRL**

*With confusion:*

I had a nightmare,

where I was blind.

You smelled like

Eau d'Orange Verte,

and never answered

my questions.

*Breathes heavily and looks into his eyes.*

*The doctor smiles covering his face with the book.*

*The girl looks at the book cover, trying to read the title.*

*The doctor notices.*

**THE GIRL**

What are you reading?

**DOCTOR**

The theory of general relativity predicts that a sufficiently compact mass can deform spacetime to form a **BLACK HOLE**, from where nothing—not even particles and electromagnetic radiation such as light—can escape from inside it.

**THE GIRL**

*Staring up at the starry sky.*

Images penetrate each other

like in a kaleidoscope...

**DOCTOR**

*Puts the book aside.*

*Reaches for a big mandarin*

*and starts peeling.*

Did you know  
that dreaming about  
losing your eyesight  
indicates  
a fear of losing  
your rationality?

**THE GIRL**

*Covers and uncovers her eyes with her hands.*

Many stars

have multiple pairs

of eyes.

**DOCTOR**

*Continues.*

And if you're dreaming  
about looking at someone's eyes...

**THE GIRL** *washes her eyes.*

*Pause.*

**THE GIRL**

Millions of eyes,  
and all of them  
are watching us...

**DOCTOR**

*Opens the mandarin and shares with the girl.*

You're behaving strangely today.

**THE GIRL**

*Takes one slice of mandarin and eats it.*

I'm just glad to see you.

**THE GIRL** and the **DOCTOR** *leave the bathtub and dresses each other up.*

**THE PATIENT** and **ALTER-EGO** *join them.*

*Blackout.*

**11.**

***THE GIRL** and **ALTER-EGO** dance sensually.*

*They hold each other's hands back to back.*

**DOCTOR**

For how long?

**PATIENT**

Days, nights, hours.

**THE GIRL AND ALTER-EGO**

Do you hear that voice?

**PATIENT**

She is talking to someone -

Mandarins.

**DOCTOR**

*Makes note in the notebook.*

Disorganized thoughts.

**PATIENT**

Pinch her-

He is here-

with her.

They are here together.

**PATIENT**

She talks about you-

**THE GIRL**

Are they together?

**PATIENT**

She fantasizes-

**ALTER-EGO**

She just asks for attention.

**DOCTOR**

*Makes note in the notebook.*

Hallucinations.

**DOCTOR + PATIENT**

Wake up!

**PATIENT**

She's sleepwalking...

**THE GIRL**

Can they see us?

**DOCTOR**

With the increased  
dopamine levels

**ALTER-EGO**

Only you.

people can think  
about their loved ones  
85 percent of the day

A very limited vision.

**PATIENT**

85 percent!

**THE GIRL AND ALTER-EGO**

They want us to wake up.

**PATIENT**

With the increased  
dopamine levels  
people can think....

**DOCTOR**

*Makes note in the notebook.*

Delusions.

**DOCTOR + PATIENT**

Wake up.

**THE GIRL AND ALTER-EGO**

Him and her.

**PATIENT**

85 percent of the day  
about their loved ones ...

**THE GIRL AND ALTER-EGO**

They want us to...

**DOCTOR + PATIENT**

Wake up.

**THE GIRL AND ALTER-EGO**

Together.

**DOCTOR**

Now.

*Clicks his fingers.*

***THE GIRL** and **ALTER-EGO** collapse.*

*Two become one.*

**THE GIRL + ALTER-EGO**

*Holding each other hands.*

We have ten fingers,  
but these fingers form  
one hand.

We have four hands,  
but they grow from  
one torso.

We speak through two voices,  
but they come out from  
one mouth.

***ALTER-EGO** takes the blindfold off revealing the girl's eyes.*

**THE GIRL + ALTER-EGO**

Can we see?

**THE GIRL**

Can I see?

**ALTER-EGO**

Can you see?

**PATIENT**

people can think  
about their loved ones...

**THE GIRL + ALTER-EGO**

Can we see?

*Pause.*

*THE GIRL opens eyes slowly and looks around.*

*THE GIRL notices the doctor and stares at him.*

**PATIENT**

Does she see?

**DOCTOR**

The dopamine levels  
have dropped sharply...

*General pause.*

**THE GIRL**

*Spoken softly.*

Oh, I see.

*Long beat.*

*Blackout.*