

THE NEW ANIMAL
by Laura Neill

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CHARACTERS

LLAMA	Tries to be edgy. Resents Donkey for being a “farmer's pet.”
DONKEY	Likes plans and people. Resents Llama for trying to make trouble.
ALPACA	Appreciates the little things. Doesn't bother “keeping up” unless a moment seems poetic.
COW	Trying to be popular and cool. Wow wow wowwww.
COW 2	Also trying to be popular and cool, but like, totally doing it first. Wow wow wowwww.
PIG	Really wishes they weren't stuck in a pen with the cows.
WOLF	Thinks they're very sly.
HORSE	Really committed to sleeping. Honestly, nothing is worth their time.
LAMB	Sweet, innocent... vampire... who wants to take over the world.
ENSEMBLE	Optional ensemble of other farm creatures who tremble before the lamb. Add as many non-speaking bloody deaths as you want.

PLACE

The farm

TIME

Tuesday morning

RUN TIME

30-35 minutes

NOTE

This isn't a situation for full-body animal suits. It's not naturalism. Part of the comedy comes from the fact that the actors are very clearly humans wearing animal-ear headbands that they bought for three bucks.

The set is simple: We see at least two sides of a fence that encloses a pen. There are three pens in the play, but we only see one at a time, so you only need one onstage.

Scene One

(At rise: a pen at the farm. A LLAMA, an ALPACA, and a DONKEY graze and lounge.)

Oh spit, what time is it? LLAMA

Beats me. ALPACA

Eight fifty-two. DONKEY

Spiiiiiit. LLAMA

Llama. DONKEY

What? LLAMA

Watch your language. It's Tuesday, the children are coming! DONKEY

...Human's pet. LLAMA

Rabble rouser. DONKEY

Farmer lover. LLAMA

Beastly *animal*. DONKEY

Dudes—dudes. Too early. ALPACA

It's almost nine. DONKEY

And I gotta get my graze on. You know? Appreciate the bliss of the morning. ALPACA

Spiiiiiit. LLAMA

Shhhh!

DONKEY

The bliss, dude.

ALPACA

(They graze.)

Are you two really not—it's almost nine!

LLAMA

So?

DONKEY

It's Tuesday.

LLAMA

So? The kids don't show up til the afternoon.

ALPACA

Didn't you hear what Farmer Dan said about Tuesday?

LLAMA

What did he say?

DONKEY

Tuesday is a pretty word.

ALPACA

You'd think being their *pet* and all you'd be a little more attentive to what the humans say.

LLAMA

I'm attentive! I'm very attentive to what our humans say!

DONKEY

Then where were you yesterday at slops time?

LLAMA

I was just—I was—Tuesday is when the kids visit in the afternoon! Everyone knows that!

DONKEY

Tuesday.

ALPACA
(contentedly)

LLAMA

Ahhhh. But lil human's pet doesn't know everything, huh? It's not just kids-visit day.

DONKEY

Oh, come on.

LLAMA

Guess there's something that stinky ol' llamas are good for after all, with our *bigger ears*.

DONKEY

I was *trying* to give you a compliment when I said that--

LLAMA

I'm sure you were. Well, it's just too bad that you don't have *bigger ears*, or else you'd know what's happening today.

DONKEY

Or you could tell me instead of lording up your imaginary greatness.

LLAMA

Mmmmm.... nope.

DONKEY

Is it new food?

LLAMA

Nope.

DONKEY

Is it more fence?

LLAMA

Nope.

DONKEY

New grass.

LLAMA

You are SO bad at guessing!

ALPACA

Oh! I know. I know it. I had a dream about this. ...Is it... a new rock-climbing wall with special alpaca harnesses?

LLAMA

(can't contain it anymore)

Farmer Dan said we're getting a.... lamb!

(Pause.)

ALPACA

Lamb. Lamb. Lamb. That's a funny word.

A lamb? DONKEY

ALPACA
You know how you say something enough times it doesn't really sound like a word? Lamb.
Lamb.

Llama. LLAMA

A lamb. DONKEY
(Pause.)
Well, so what? That's fine, then.

A *lamb*? LLAMA

A lamb? ALPACA

Yes. That'll be fine. DONKEY

You're awfully calm. LLAMA

Why shouldn't I be? DONKEY

Do you know what it *is*? LLAMA

Of course I do. DONKEY

Laaaaaaaamb. ALPACA

You know what it is and you're not... scared. LLAMA

Lamb lamb lamb. ALPACA

Dude—if you could just-- LLAMA

Let Alpaca say what Alpaca wants to say. DONKEY

Lamb. ALPACA

Okay, what is it? LLAMA

You mean you don't know? DONKEY

Would I ask if I didn't know? LLAMA

Look at that. Something the snarky llama doesn't know. DONKEY

Lamb would be a good name for a planet. ALPACA

Alpaca-- DONKEY

Mmm? ALPACA

Llama doesn't know what lambs are! DONKEY

Oh. *Oh.* ALPACA

And poor little llama is scared. DONKEY

I'm not scared. LLAMA

Wah wah wah. Llama is scared. DONKEY

I'M NOT SCARED! LLAMA

Why would anyone be scared? ALPACA

DONKEY

Well, see, lambs don't really like llamas.

LLAMA

They don't?

DONKEY

No. Sometimes they attack them in the night. Sometimes they stalk llamas to judge just when they're ready to be *taken down*.

ALPACA

Sometimes they drink their blood.

LLAMA

Alpaca!

ALPACA

What?

LLAMA

You're kidding, right? You're just kidding?

DONKEY

Of course they're kidding!

LLAMA

Of course they're kidding. Of course.

DONKEY

You thought *lambs were vampires*?

LLAMA

I DON'T KNOW WHAT IT IS. SO SUE ME.

ALPACA

Wait, so... wait. We're getting another animal?

DONKEY

Yes. Catch up...

ALPACA

A lamb.

DONKEY

A lamb.

ALPACA

Funny word.

LLAMA

We covered that.

DONKEY

Don't snap at Alpaca just because *you're* grumpy.

ALPACA

It *is* a funny word!

LLAMA

...Yeah.

ALPACA

What does it mean?

(Pause.)

DONKEY

You want to know what a lamb is?

ALPACA

Yeah! Are we getting like a cute little buddy who'll go rock-climbing with me? Or like a fierce snarly thing that'll try to snatch me out of my awesome special alpaca harness?

LLAMA

There's no rock-climbing, Alpaca. You made that up.

ALPACA

Oh. I did?

DONKEY

Yup.

ALPACA

Did I make the lamb up too?

DONKEY

No.

ALPACA

So what is it?

(Pause.)

DONKEY

I don't know. I was just messing with Llama.

(ALPACA starts to laugh slowly.)

You don't know. LLAMA

Not at all. DONKEY

Are you serious! LLAMA

You should have seen your *face*. DONKEY

My face? You should see your face when the lamb gets here! It could be a predator! LLAMA

Totally worth it. DONKEY

Worth it? *Worth it?* They could be *culling the herd!* LLAMA

(ALPACA finishes laughing.)

Don't be an alarmist. DONKEY

The wolf says that all unknown creatures are dangerous! That they come here to kill us! LLAMA

And you listen to *the wolf?* DONKEY

The wolf was saying. They "cull the herd." They cull the herd with dogs, with these big dogs that they-- LLAMA

But those are dogs. Not lambs. DONKEY

But they have different names for all of the dogs! What if lamb is a big one? LLAMA

A big dog? ...Lamb. Lamb. ALPACA

It could be! LLAMA

ALPACA

Lamb. Lamb. It does sound kind of scary.

DONKEY

There is no reason to think that a lamb is a dog!

LLAMA

There's no reason to think that it's all nice and fluffy like us, either.

DONKEY

Huh. You're not that fluffy.

LLAMA

Will you focus?

ALPACA

(in deep, scary tones)

Lamb. *LAMB*.

LLAMA

Like Rottweiler, wolf, pitbull...

DONKEY and LLAMA

...lamb.

DONKEY

(scared)

But... but there's no reason to be scared.

LLAMA

Do you really believe that?

ALPACA

What if it *is* a vampire?

LLAMA

It could be this giant huge creature--

DONKEY

That drinks our blood.

ALPACA

Could it be?

LLAMA

What if it is?

DONKEY

What if it is?

LLAMA
It could drive us out.

ALPACA
It could kill us.

DONKEY
It could mean that the humans don't really love us—that none of this / has been real.

LLAMA
/ It could *kill* us.

ALPACA
(sings the beginning of Beethoven's Fifth Symphony)
Dah Dah Dah DUMMMM..... Dah Dah Dah DUMMMM....

LLAMA
...Not the time, dude.

ALPACA
I thought... a little musical interlude...

DONKEY
Not the time.

ALPACA
(sings softly)
Dah dah dah...

DONKEY
We need a plan.

LLAMA
I don't know if your slops schedule is gonna help.

DONKEY
Not a schedule. A plan!

LLAMA
Are you seriously contending word choice right now?

DONKEY
It could KILL us!

ALPACA
Okay, I should not start humming right now...

LLAMA

What's your plan?

DONKEY

Me? I didn't say I had a plan. I said we / needed a plan.

LLAMA

Okay, well, what's the plan?

DONKEY

Are you just going to make me do everything?

LLAMA

You're the farmer's pet! You're the one who knows them best!

DONKEY

Oh, but I don't have the *biggest ears*, do I? I'm not good enough to have the *biggest ears* like the *llama*.

ALPACA

Um--

LLAMA

DON'T bring ear size into this! Why'd you have to bring ear size into this?

DONKEY

I didn't bring ear size into this--

ALPACA

Um, DUDES--

LLAMA

You sure as heck did! Who do you think said ear size, huh? Who do you think said / ear size?

DONKEY

What the heck does it matter?

LLAMA

Did you just *curse*?

DONKEY

This is a hecking *emergency*!

ALPACA

DUDES! ...Use whatever ears you both got.

(All three of them listen. The sound of a truck. From the distance, a piercing, mewling “baaaaaa” is heard: the lamb approaches.)

(LLAMA, ALPACA, and DONKEY scream together.)

(Blackout.)

Scene Two

(An empty pen at the farm.)

(LAMB, looking very innocent, tottles around on wobbly legs.)

(HORSE sleeps in the corner.)

LAMB

Baaaaaa. Baaaaaa. Hey. Are you awake? I'm new here.

(HORSE opens one eye, decides not to respond, and keeps sleeping.)

Baaaaa.

WOLF

Psssst.

(The WOLF lurks behind the fence.)

LAMB

Ahhh! You scared me.

WOLF

Sorry. I'm Wolf.

LAMB

Lamb.

WOLF

I know.

LAMB

Why are you on that side of the fence?

WOLF

The humans can't catch me. I'm too fast.

LAMB

They didn't catch me either. My mom sent me here.

WOLF

That's what she told you?

LAMB

Yeah, I mean, I was with her and then she told me to go with these farmer people and then--

WOLF

Sure. I bet it was all her idea.

LAMB

What do you mean?

WOLF

Look, kid. The world's a scary place. The humans aren't good animals.

LAMB

They've been fine so far...

WOLF

They put you inside this fence, didn't they?

LAMB

Yeah... so what?

WOLF

They're trying to keep you from getting out. They're trying to keep you down.

LAMB

Why would I want to go up? I'm not a bird.

WOLF

Look... okay. The humans have been saying things about you.

LAMB

I guess they're excited I'm here? Maybe my mom told them I like asparagus.

WOLF

They've been saying... Aw, I shouldn't tell you. You're just a kid.

LAMB

What?

WOLF

They've been saying that you're... dangerous.

LAMB

Dangerous? Me?

WOLF

Humans get things wrong. They get things wrong all the time.

LAMB

But I'm just a little lamb.

WOLF

I know. But the thing is... the humans have also been telling the other animals about you. To be scared of you. That you're scary.

LAMB

Don't be silly. Humans can't talk to animals. They don't have the skill.

WOLF

They're smarter than you think. And they're out to get you. They didn't take you away from your mom to be nice to you or find you new friends or give you asparagus. They took you away from your friends to--

LAMB

Tell people I'm scary?

WOLF

They think you're a vampire. That you drink other animals' blood.

LAMB

WHAT?

WOLF

Keep your voice down. They'll hear you. --Didn't you notice how when the humans handled you, they wore gloves?

LAMB

Yeah, to keep my fur safe.

WOLF

Well, yeah, because they're going to scrape it off you to make coats.

LAMB

WHAT?

WOLF

But also because they don't want you to bite them. Because they think you can drink their blood. And they've told everyone here... they've convinced everyone here that you can drink their blood.

LAMB

I don't understand why they would do that.

WOLF

The world's a scary place.

LAMB

But if everyone hates me... where am I gonna go?

Out here. WOLF

Out THERE? LAMB

The fence is trying to keep you in. To keep you down. I mean, I know you're not a bird, it's an expression. They're trying to repress you because they're scared of your power. WOLF

But I don't drink people's blood. LAMB

They don't know that. And the other animals around here... they don't react well to change. Or to scary animals. WOLF

I'm not scary!! LAMB

I know that, and you know that, but, well. The prison yard can be a hard place. WOLF

This isn't a prison. LAMB

Isn't it? WOLF

I don't—no. The world isn't a scary place. LAMB

It's not scary out here. It's nice out here. No humans scraping your fur off, no animals coming for you before you come for them. WOLF

And you're out there. LAMB

I am. And I'm your friend. WOLF

Oh boy. Really? LAMB

I'm the friendliest wolf you'll ever find. WOLF

LAMB

Okay. Well, I guess if you really think I should...

WOLF

I really do. I'll lift up this bottom part of the fence, and you just slip right under.

LAMB

Under? That seems hard.

WOLF

It's not hard at all.

LAMB

Why don't you come under first. To show me that it's okay. And then I'll lift it up so you can go and then you lift it up so I can go and then we'll go find some asparagus!!

WOLF

Okay. Sure, kid. Here I come.

(WOLF comes under the fence.)

LAMB

Wow. You're bigger up close. And you smell... dangerous.

WOLF

That's just the smell of Outside the Fence.

LAMB

I don't know. I'm not sure if I should do this.

WOLF

Come on. It's easy. I'll lift the fence for you.

LAMB

Are you sure?

WOLF

Sure. Super easy. Like--

(WOLF turns to lift the fence.)

(LAMB tackles WOLF from behind and bites their neck. Blood everywhere.)

WOLF (continued)

What are you—holy spit--

LAMB

Shhh. It'll all be over in a minute.

You're a... vampire...
WOLF

So are you. Don't look so shocked.
LAMB

Oops...
WOLF

(WOLF slumps down, unconscious.)

(HORSE opens one eye to see what's going on... sees what's going on...
and bolts upright, pressing all four hooves against the fence farthest from
LAMB.)

What the FLUFF.
HORSE

Oh, shut up. Like you've never met a lamb before.
LAMB

Please don't kill me.
HORSE

Why would I kill you?
LAMB

Why did you kill the wolf??
HORSE

Weren't they going to drink my blood?
LAMB

Y-yeah.
HORSE

Did you know they were going to drink my blood?
LAMB

I was asleep. I didn't see. I swear I didn't see anything.
HORSE

But you heard.
LAMB

No. No no no, I, I didn't hear anything.
HORSE

LAMB

You're gonna go tattle on me to the humans. Lamb is drinking people's blood! Those gloves you're wearing might not be enough!

HORSE

I would never. I would never say anything.

LAMB

Like you weren't going to say anything when Wolf was going to drink all my blood?

HORSE

I was, I was asleep, I swear I was asleep, I wasn't--

LAMB

Maybe I will kill you after all.

HORSE

I can, I can find new victims for you!

LAMB

Oh?

HORSE

I know where the pens are. I can show you. I can carry you over there. Or you can climb on me to get over the fence.

LAMB

Hmm. Interesting. Continue...

HORSE

If you don't kill me, I can give you a boost over the fence and you can drink like three more animals' blood.

LAMB

I don't know. Whoever those other three are, they weren't going to sleep as someone killed poor innocent little Lamb.

HORSE

I really didn't hear anything. And, and, I mean different types of blood is better, right? Three different types of blood is like a whole meal. Me, I'm just an old stringy horse. Barely any blood in here. And all one taste. Boring. Right? Let me help you. Let me help you kill everyone else.

LAMB

All right.

HORSE

All right??

LAMB

Yeah. Sure. Help me over the fence, then.

HORSE

Oh thank you. Thank you thank you thank you so much o mighty lamb--

(HORSE turns to help LAMB over the fence.)

(LAMB sinks their teeth into HORSE's neck.)

HORSE

Neigh! Neigh!!!

LAMB

Dumb horse.

(Blackout.)

Scene Three

(Two COWS and a PIG in a different pen.)

COW

Wait. Did you hear something?

COW 2

Nah.

HORSE
(offstage)

Neigh! Neigh!!!!

COW

I D K, I feel like that was the horse.

COW 2

Yeah. They're so dramatic.

COW

You think something's up?

COW 2

Nah. I don't wanna mess up my hair looking.

(They chew.)

(PIG wakes up.)

Did somebody scream??

PIG

Yeah.

COW

Probably Horse. So dramatic.

COW 2

Okay, we're all gonna die.

PIG

Nah.

COW

Someone SCREAMED and you think it's just fine??

PIG

Go back to sleep, Pig.

COW 2

No. No no no. It's slaughter time.

PIG

No such thing.

COW

Wow wow wowwww, SO dramatic.

COW 2

No such THING? Where do you think Pig 2 went?

PIG

You should really stop calling them Pig 2. Like, why are you Pig 1 and they're Pig 2. Honestly, that's probably why they left. It's kinda rude.

COW 2

Shut up, Cow 2.

PIG

You shut up. Your face shut up. Your face.

COW

I was talking to them.

PIG

Oh. Never mind. Continue.

COW

PIG

We should try to get over there.

COW

(trying out their leadership, as in a mirror)

I'm Cow 1. Cow One. That's me.

PIG

Could one of you give me a boost? We could see if we're all about to die?

COW

I'm Cow 1 and you're Cow Two—oooo--

COW 2

I'M Cow 1. You're not Cow 1.

COW

I'm Cow Onnn—nneeee--

PIG

SOMEONE GIVE ME A BOOST OVER THE FENCE!

COW

Ew no.

COW 2

Like why are you yelling.

COW

Like ew.

COW 2

Like double ew.

PIG

For real?

COW
(mocking)

For real??

COW 2

Like for real??

PIG

That's why you're Cow 2.

COW 2

Excuse me?

PIG

You say everything they say, just after them.

COW

They do not.

COW 2

I do not.

PIG

It doesn't matter!! We're about to die!!

(A chilling scream offstage. PIG turns to COW in a panic.)

Come on come on come on -- give me a boost!

COW 2

Why are you asking THEM?

PIG

IT DOES NOT MATTER WHO IS COW 1.

COW

Says Pig 2.

COW 2

No that's Pig 1.

COW

Wow wow wowwww really?

COW 2

Um yeah.

COW

I guess that explains it.

COW and COW 2

So DRAMATIC.

(Another chilling scream.)

PIG

COW GIVE ME A BOOST RIGHT NOW PLEASE!!

COW 2

Okay but why do you keep asking them.

PIG

Because being Cow 1 apparently means something to you so I thought I'd ask the leader.

COW 2

Ew wait Cow 1 is not the leader.

PIG

Cow are you the leader or not?? Give me a boost!

COW

Oh I am totally the leader. I am totally one hundred percent the leader. Cow One.

PIG

Then can you help me over the fence??

COW

I don't know, did you vote for me?

PIG

There was no vote!!

COW

So, no? Wow wow wowwww you didn't vote for me.

PIG

There literally wasn't a vote, I literally couldn't--

COW 2

We should have a vote.

COW

That's literally violence. You're literally choosing violence right now. I can't even.

(Another chilling scream.)

PIG

VIOLENCE IS HAPPENING RIGHT OVER THERE. VIOLENCE. DO YOU HEAR THAT.

COW

Wow wow wowwww so dramatic!!

COW 2

I demand a recount!

COW

Um what?

COW 2

If there was a vote, or there wasn't a vote, I'm not actually clear on whether there was a vote or not, so I either demand a recount or an election!!

COW

I cannot believe you right now.

PIG

I cannot believe EITHER OF YOU RIGHT NOW--

COW 2

Like, if we're picking Cow 1 and Cow 2, like I definitely have a shot at being Cow 1. Like I chew grass better than you.

COW

Wow wow wowwww no.

COW 2

Wow wow wowwww yes. Like, I get more of the roots out of the ground, and stuff.

PIG

We're gonna die.

COW

Well I fart more than you!

COW 2

Wow wow wowwww no you don't.

COW

Um yes I do.

PIG

We're gonna DIE--

COW 2

I have the fartiest farts. I'm the cowest cow of all the cows.

COW

I AM COW 1!

COW 2

FIGHT ME, WITCH!

PIG

We're gonna die because the cows are having a popularity contest as literally everyone dies.

COW

COW 1 RAISES THEIR MIGHTY FISTS!

COW 2
UM YES, COW 1 DOES!

PIG
COW 1 WOULD HELP ME OVER THE FENCE!

COW
Um, what?

COW 2
Like, what?

PIG
(imitating the cows)
Like, wow wow wowwww you guys, THIS is like literally the thing that decides who's Cow 1.
Like, who's cow enough to help lil piggy over the fence??

COW
Um, of course I'm COW enough--

PIG
Cause like, if you're not, you know. Like if you don't think you're cow enough, then.

COW 2
I'm totally cow enough!!

COW
Me too!

COW 2
Me first!!

PIG
LITERALLY GET ME OVER THIS FENCE RIGHT NOW AND YOU WIN!!

(COW 1 and 2 hoist PIG over the fence vehemently.)

COW
I win!

COW 2
I win!!

PIG
OW.

(Another chilling, life-ending scream.)

COW

Wow wow wowwww, did you hear that?? That kind of sounded like Farmer Dan? As Cow 1, I think maybe we should do something?

(Blackout.)

Scene Four

(PIG enters an empty pen, breathing heavily, covered in blood that is not their own.)

PIG

Hello? Llama?

(Silence.)

DONKEY? Alpaca? Anyone? It's Pig. Is anyone alive?

(ALPACA pops up.)

ALPACA

Hey, over here!

LLAMA

Alpaca!

DONKEY

I said STAY DOWN until I say get up!

LLAMA

No one listens to you.

DONKEY

In this ONE instance don't you think maybe you should listen to me?

ALPACA

Pig! Piggety Pig, my dude! You're alive!

PIG

Alpaca!

ALPACA

This is wiiiiild, right?

PIG

Keep your voice down.

ALPACA

Nah, I'm ninety percent convinced this is a nightmare from some bad weeds.

I'm pretty sure animals are dying.

LLAMA

It's bad out there.

PIG

Who's alive? Who's dead? Is it the lamb?

DONKEY

It's not like Pig has a numbered LIST of casualties, General--

LLAMA

Horse is down. Wolf is down.

PIG

Ha. Serves Wolf right.

LLAMA

Horse is down?

DONKEY

The chickens are all out, all that's left are feathers.

PIG

Dude.

ALPACA

Are you sure? The chickens are all dead?

LLAMA

What about the humans?

DONKEY

You care about the HUMANS?

LLAMA

Of course I care about the humans, they take care of us--

DONKEY

I can't believe that even in the lambing apocalypse you're still a farmer's pet.

LLAMA

SHHHHH.

PIG

Maybe the lamb will be, like, a benign ruler.

ALPACA

DONKEY

Did you miss the part where they KILLED EVERYONE??

ALPACA

Nah, that part was just a nightmare.

LLAMA

Alpaca. It's not a nightmare.

PIG

The humans are definitely dead.

(From offstage:)

LAMB

Baaaaaaaaaaa.

ALPACA

Holy spiiiiit.

DONKEY

Oh no oh no the humans are dead--

LLAMA

Right. Time to find some weapons. Anybody got some weapons?

DONKEY

The HUMANS are DEAD--

LLAMA

So are the chickens! And I care a heck of a lot more about the chickens than stupid Farmer Dan!
You remember what happened to Pig 2!

DONKEY

That was three MONTHS ago, get over it--

PIG

Okay, sensitive subject over here--

ALPACA

I got a weapon.

LLAMA

Where?

(Alpaca spits. Smiles widely.)

ALPACA

S'good, right?

(Everyone ignores Alpaca again.)

DONKEY

Okay. Okay. Itemized list of everything in sight.

LLAMA

And that's going to help because?

DONKEY

DO YOU HAVE A BETTER IDEA.

LLAMA

Maybe YOU SHOULDN'T BE IN CHARGE.

PIG

For real if you all start with “who's DONKEY 1” I'm gonna--

LLAMA

I'm a LLAMA, dumbass.

LAMB

(offstage)

BAAAAAAAAAA.

(Someone throws their body against the fence. Everyone screams. But it's HORSE, bleeding heavily.)

HORSE

It's... the lamb...

PIG

We know, catch up.

DONKEY

We deduced as much from the evil “baaas” coming from the direction of the screams.

ALPACA

(apropos of nothing)

It's Tuesday.

HORSE

It's... a vampire...

DONKEY

I KNEW it was something bad!!

LLAMA

No you didn't! You were just messing with me!

It drank... my blood...
HORSE

You're okay, mate. You're okay.
PIG

Really?
HORSE

Probably not, honestly.
LLAMA

I feel my death rattle coming upon me.
HORSE

Oh no.
DONKEY

Not to quote the cows, but, so DRAMATIC.
PIG

No no no the horse's death rattle is real. It's storied. And it's LOUD.
DONKEY

BAAAAAAA.
LAMB
(offstage, closer)

Do you want that monster to find us???
DONKEY

(COW and COW 2 show up behind the other side of the fence.)

Cow 1 here first!!
COW

Cow 1 smarter than you, I told you this was the right direction!
COW 2

SHHHHHHHH.
DONKEY

Wow wow wowwww, is that blood?
COW

Um... yeah.
PIG

HORSE

Death rattle... coming...

DONKEY

No death rattle. No death rattle!

(DONKEY starts doing compressions or something on HORSE.)

COW 2

They can't, like, DO the sight of blood.

(COW starts to faint. COW 2 rushes over and fans their face.)

LLAMA

HOLY FLUFF!

DONKEY

Watch the fence!

ALPACA

No offense, DONKEY, but I'm not sure anyone really cares about, like, the fence right now?

PIG

We need to get out of here.

LLAMA

We can't, there's a fence.

COW

(recovering from the faint)

I'm okay. I'm okay. Cow 1 is okay!

COW 2

Cow 1 saved Cow 2.

DONKEY

The FENCE.

LLAMA

No one cares--

DONKEY

Horse! Over here!

(DONKEY tries to drag HORSE to the COWS. It doesn't work.)

Cows! Over here!

LLAMA

What are you DOING?

PIG

I'm not sure the cows are going to help--

DONKEY

If we lean them all against the fence we can break it and get out of here!

LLAMA

DONKEY! Breaking humans' property??

DONKEY

I don't want to end up like Pig 2!!

PIG

Again, ouch.

(The LAMB approaches.)

LAMB

Hello.

DONKEY

Oh no, did it get you, too?

PIG

Get over here before the lamb finds you.

LAMB

Before the lamb...

PIG

Come INSIDE!

(PIG lets LAMB under the fence.)

LAMB

Why, thank you.

HORSE

Noooo... It's... the... lamb...

(HORSE lets out a massive death rattle.)

(Everyone stares at the LAMB in horror.)

(Then they all scream.)

LAMB

Oh, calm down. Yes, I'm a vampire lamb who can drink your blood and kill all of you with one hoof. The humans were trying to make my fur fluffier and they accidentally engineered the next terrifying world dictator. So what.

ALPACA

Yo, that's rad.

LAMB

You made it easy for me. All of you fighting each other, thinking you can get one up on each other when someone's back is turned, all the sniping and backstabbing and “who's Cow 1”--

COW and COW 2

ME!

LAMB

You made it all so easy. But you're lucky. Because I don't have much interest in killing all of you.

ALPACA

RAD!

LAMB

I'm kind of full. There's only so much blood I can drink in one day. And I could use some evil minions.

DONKEY

We're not minions.

LAMB

Says the farmer's pet.

DONKEY

How did you know?

LAMB

It's all over your face.

ALPACA

Wait. So like, we're like all gonna die, right? Unless we can break that fence? Like we're gonna die if we don't break that fence.

LLAMA

Now is NOT THE TIME for the weed to be talking, Alpaca--

LAMB

You're gonna die regardless of the fence. I'll just pile up your bodies and get out and get the outside-the-fence idiots next. So. Who wants to be an evil minion instead of dying?

(DONKEY, LLAMA, COW 2, and PIG raise their hands.)

(HORSE does not raise their hand because HORSE is dead.)

(ALPACA got distracted by something over the fence.)

(COW looks confused.)

COW

Is there, like, a chief evil minion? Because I'd really like to be Cow 1 in this scenario?

LAMB

The other choice is that you die immediately.

COW

Okay, but like, on my gravestone it would say Cow 1, right--

(LAMB bares vampire teeth.)

COW 2

We're evil minions!

COW

Total evil minions without numbers. Got it.

(LAMB turns to glare at HORSE.)

LAMB

And why aren't you raising your hand?

PIG

Um. Horse is dead.

LAMB

Right. Right.

(LAMB's gaze lands on ALPACA.)

And you? Why do you not bow down to my evil greatness?

ALPACA
(very mellow)

It's Tuesday. It's kids visit day.

LLAMA

Alpaca, this is NOT THE TIME!

DONKEY

Alpaca will be an evil minion too. I swear they will. They're just a little--

Tuesday.
ALPACA

I guess I could drink ONE more cup of blood.
LAMB

ALPACA, BE A MINION--
DONKEY

Tuesday is KIDS VISIT DAY!
ALPACA

(ALPACA does a twirling excited ballet over to the fence, and CLIMBS it--)

Fake rock climbing wall, yeah--

(--stomps on the catch to release the gate--)

Stomp dancing, woohoo--

(--grabs a lasso from behind the gate and tosses it over LAMB--)

Dumb human rodeo practice!!

(Everyone, including LAMB, gapes for a second, then all is motion.)

Dirt in Lamb's face--
LLAMA

I got the end of the lasso--
DONKEY

I'll pull with you--
PIG

We got the fence!
COW

Numberless non-minion cows got the fence!
COW 2

PULL!!
DONKEY and PIG

(DONKEY and PIG pull the lasso tight as LLAMA throws dust in the LAMB's face, COWS knock down the other side of the fence, and ALPACA does a dance on the gate.)

(The LAMB has been neutralized.)

DONKEY

We got 'em!

LLAMA

Wow that WORKED??

COWS

We made an escape route!

PIG

The gate is open so you really didn't need to knock down the fence but okay yeah you helped--

ALPACA

Tuesday!

LAMB

I am defeated. Poor, helpless little lamb is defeated. Baaaaa. BAAAAA.

(DONKEY puts a gag in LAMB's mouth, avoiding the vampire teeth.)

LLAMA

Farmer's pet. I'm impressed.

DONKEY

Don't make me kick you.

COW and COW 2

Wow wow wowwww.

PIG

Wow wow wowww, we're free. We're free and we're alive!

COW and COW 2

WOW WOW WOWWWW.

PIG

Wow wow WOWWWW, we will live free in the wilderness in Pig 2's honor! We will sleep soundly in Horse's honor! We will create our own society free of humans and vampire lambs!!

COW

I mean, sure, but I was saying...

COW 2

Wow wow WOWWWW--

ALPACA IS COW ONE.

COW and COW 2

(Blackout.)

(End of play.)