

THE *Lotte Lenya* COMPETITION SONGBOOK

“A591” from *Half the Sky*

Music by Tidtaya Sinutoke, Lyrics by Isabella Dawis

SHOW SYNOPSIS

Half the Sky tells the journey of an Asian American woman climbing Mount Everest -- a contemporary American musical on a global scale, infused with the sounds of traditional Thai and Himalayan folk music.

A year after her sister's death, Aurelie sets out to fulfill her childhood dream of climbing Mount Everest. She joins an international group of mountaineers, led by a teenage Sherpa. As Aurelie embarks on her path to the top of the world, memories of her Thai American past and the unresolved rift between her and her sister begin to surface. Borders between countries and cultures, past and present, and waking and dreaming blur in this epic journey of ambition, survival and reconciliation.

SONG CONTEXT AND SCENE DESCRIPTION

On a solitary walk outside Camp 2, Aurelie is surprised by fellow climber Rod, who teases her about her lack of spontaneity and encourages her to let down her guard. In an uncharacteristically heartfelt moment for Rod, he opens up to Aurelie about his desire to find freedom, which has led him to Everest.

CHARACTER DESCRIPTION

Rod, first generation British Indian, late 20's. Adventurous, charming and self-assured. After a car accident, he left his job to become a wandering “dirtbagger.” Tenor. Vocal Range: E3-G4. This song is transposable.

PERFORMANCE NOTES

This song has been specially adapted as a solo for the Lotte Lenya Competition Songbook.