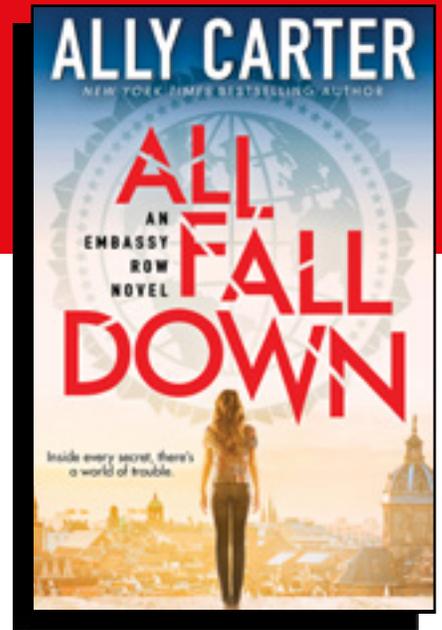


# Booktalk!

## All Fall Down Script

### *For this Book Talk you will need:*

- 5 actors (Grace, Ms. Chancellor, Grandpa, Alexei, Megan)
- Grace: jeans, t-shirt, casual shoes, shoulder-bag
- Ms. Chancellor: skirt, blouse, dress shoes, black-rimmed glasses
- Grandpa: suit, dress shirt, tie, dress shoes
- Alexei: black pants, black t-shirt, dress shoes
- Megan: black pants, t-shirt, casual shoes
- Additional props: copy of *All Fall Down*



**Grace:** *(to audience)* Guide...

**Ms. Chancellor:** There are 55 Americans employed by the embassy. A few live on the embassy grounds. But most reside in the city. We also have about 40 Adrian citizens who work with us. While you are in this building, you are on American soil. THIS is your country. THIS is your home. But step outside these walls and you are a visitor in Adria – a visitor with a very important job. We must respect our host country and we MUST respect our neighbours. Sometimes the walls that stand between us and our neighbours are all that stand between our country and war. We are the face of the United States here in Adria. We do important work for an important cause. And now, Grace, you're one of us!

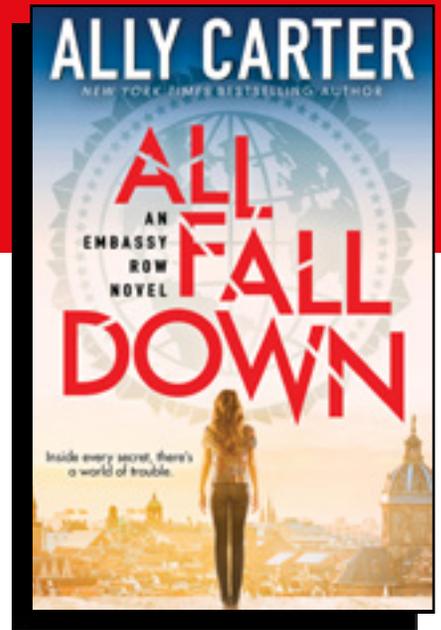
**Grace:** *(to audience)* Protector...

**Alexei:** Most posts aren't like this, you know. Embassy life is not usually so...glamorous. But Adria is different, my father says. It is like the old days here, with their balls and their beautiful embassies. Some say it is because it is good for tourism – that it is an act and they have an image to protect. But I do not know. In any case, you and I are very lucky that our families are posted here. I am your brother's proxy, Grace...And in the diplomatic corps we take proxy responsibilities very seriously.

**Grace:** *(to audience)* Denier...

☞ *continued on next page...*

# Booktalk!



## Continued

**Grandpa:** There's no Scarred Man, Gracie! Now hear me out... You were so young. It was very traumatic. You were confused. Your mother's death was an accident, Grace. It was terrible and tragic, but it was an accident all the same. The police scoured all the footage from the nearby security cameras. There was NO sign of ANY man. There was NO evidence of foul play. I saw the autopsy report myself, and the coroner's findings were VERY clear. It. Was. An. Accident!

**Grace:** *(to audience)* Connection...

**Megan:** Are you going to tell me what you're up to or not? *(pausing)* I see... *(pausing)* That's too bad. I thought I heard you trying to figure out how to hack into the palace's mainframe. I never did anything to you, you know! I never did anything at all. I've been trying to be your friend since we were six years old, but I'm not good enough for you, I guess. I've never been good enough for you. Well this is me, deciding to stop trying...except I can find him. I can find the man you're looking for...

**Grace:** *(pointing to herself)* Believer...  
*(raising her voice slightly)* I was there. I remember everything.  
*(speaking even louder)* There are 3 things I know for sure: I am NOT crazy. My mother WAS murdered. And some day I AM going to find the killer and make him pay. *(pausing)*  
*(speaking more softly and looking around the audience)* You believe me, don't you?  
*(pausing)* Well, no matter what you think *(reaching into her bag and pulling out a copy of All Fall Down)*, it's all in here *(holding up book)*. And it's at your Scholastic Book Fair.