

Notes all ent R2

George & Mary's Home
That evening

SCENE 4

(scene change music must fade quickly as the lights fade up, then segue immediately to #33, "A Place to Call Home..." MARY and the BAILEY CHILDREN are decorating the house for Christmas)

#33 A PLACE TO CALL HOME (REPRISE)

MARY

Pete, Janie, Tommy, come help me finish decorating the Christmas tree. Zuzu, you just stay there on the couch and rest.

(looks around)

Oh, I just love this old house...

① - X to Mary ② on couch

③ on platform

Especially at Christmas...

JANIE

① sit in house

① sit on pf

MARY

A ROOF AND A FIREPLACE

TOMMY

A PORCH AND A SWING

JANIE

A WHITE PICKET FENCE

PETE

A DOORBELL TO RING

MARY

A SMALL COZY KITCHEN

① x h ②

A BEDROOM OR TWO

A GARDEN TO TEND

A ROOM WITH A VIEW

ZUZU

YOU DON'T NEED A CASTLE

TO FEEL LIKE A KING

MARY

YOU JUST NEED A PLACE

TO CALL YOUR OWN

MARY & CHILDREN

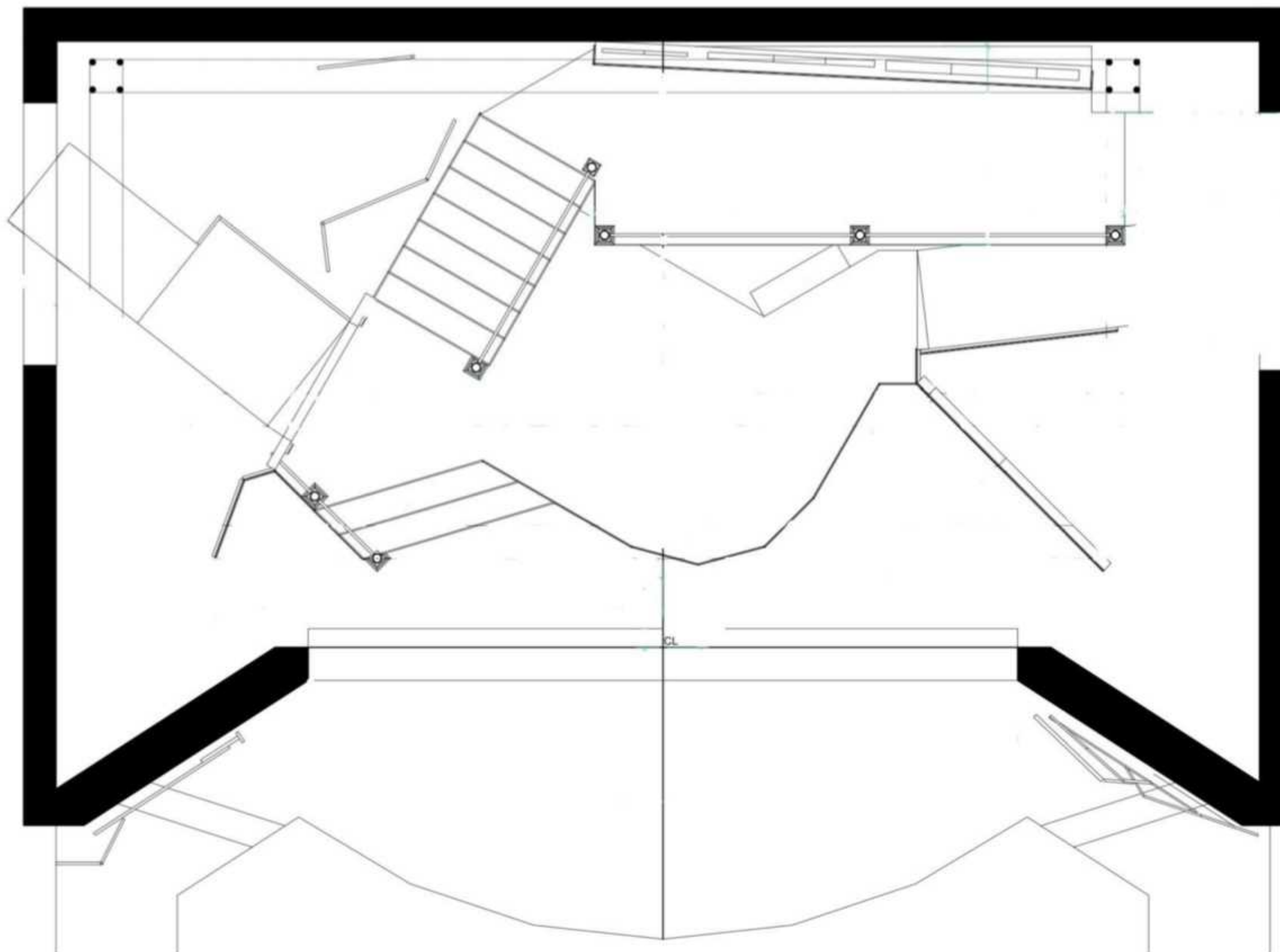
TO GATHER TOGETHER

ON EACH CHRISTMAS EVE

AND THANK GOD THAT YOU'RE NOT ALONE

YOU JUST NEED A PLACE TO CALL HOME

(as song ends, we hear GEORGE sneeze loudly offstage)



Notes

(ad lib)
Daddy, Daddy's home! **CHILDREN**
J stands

(GEORGE enters the room, despondent and dejected...there is a slight powdering of snow on his head and shoulders)

Hello darling.
MARY
J twirls; hand on. to **P**; **P** hug **G**; **G** tries to get
(ad lib)
Hello Daddy, hello Daddy. **CHILDREN**
P off x3; **P** releases

(indicating the Christmas tree)
How do you like it?
MARY
J x → piano, **P** x → tree
MARY & CHILDREN
Bless you!

(JANIE moves to the piano and begins to practice "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing")

Did you bring the wreath?
MARY

Did you bring the Christmas wreath?
PETE

What? What wreath?
GEORGE

The Merry Christmas wreath for the window.
MARY

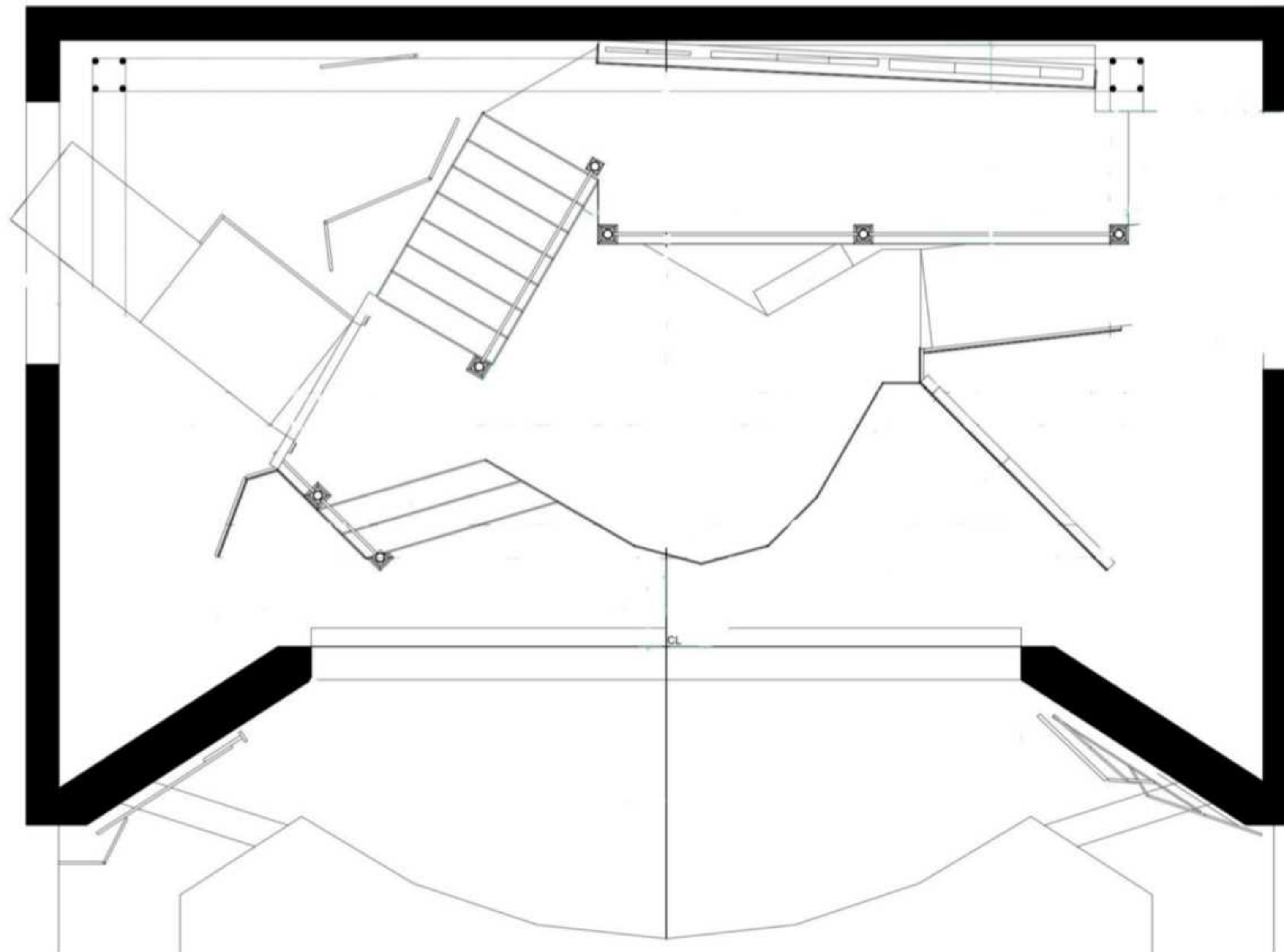
(gruffly)
No. I left it at the office.
GEORGE

Is it snowing?
MARY

Yeah, just started.
GEORGE

Where's your coat and hat?
MARY

Left them at the office.
GEORGE
(MARY stares at him, aware that something unusual has happened)



Notes

What's the matter? MARY

(bitterly) GEORGE $G \times \rightarrow P \sqrt{\quad}; T \rightarrow G$
Nothing's the matter. Everything's all right. /

(GEORGE slumps into an armchair and lifts TOMMY onto his lap...MARY is helping PETE decorate the Christmas tree)

MARY
Go on, Pete. You're a big boy. You can put the star up. Way up at the top. That's it. Fill in that little bare spot right there. That's it. $T \times$ to George
(to GEORGE)

Isn't it wonderful about Harry? We're famous, George. I'll bet I had fifty calls today about the parade, the banquet. Your mother's so excited, she...

(GEORGE has been sitting in the chair, hugging TOMMY to him, and crying quietly...MARY realizes that something is seriously wrong, and breaks off...JANIE is thumping away at the piano)

Must she keep playing that? GEORGE

JANIE
I have to practice for the party tonight, Daddy.

PETE
Mommy says after the party, we can stay up till midnight and sing Christmas carols.

TOMMY
Can you sing, Daddy?

MARY
(to GEORGE)
Better hurry and shave. The families will be here soon.

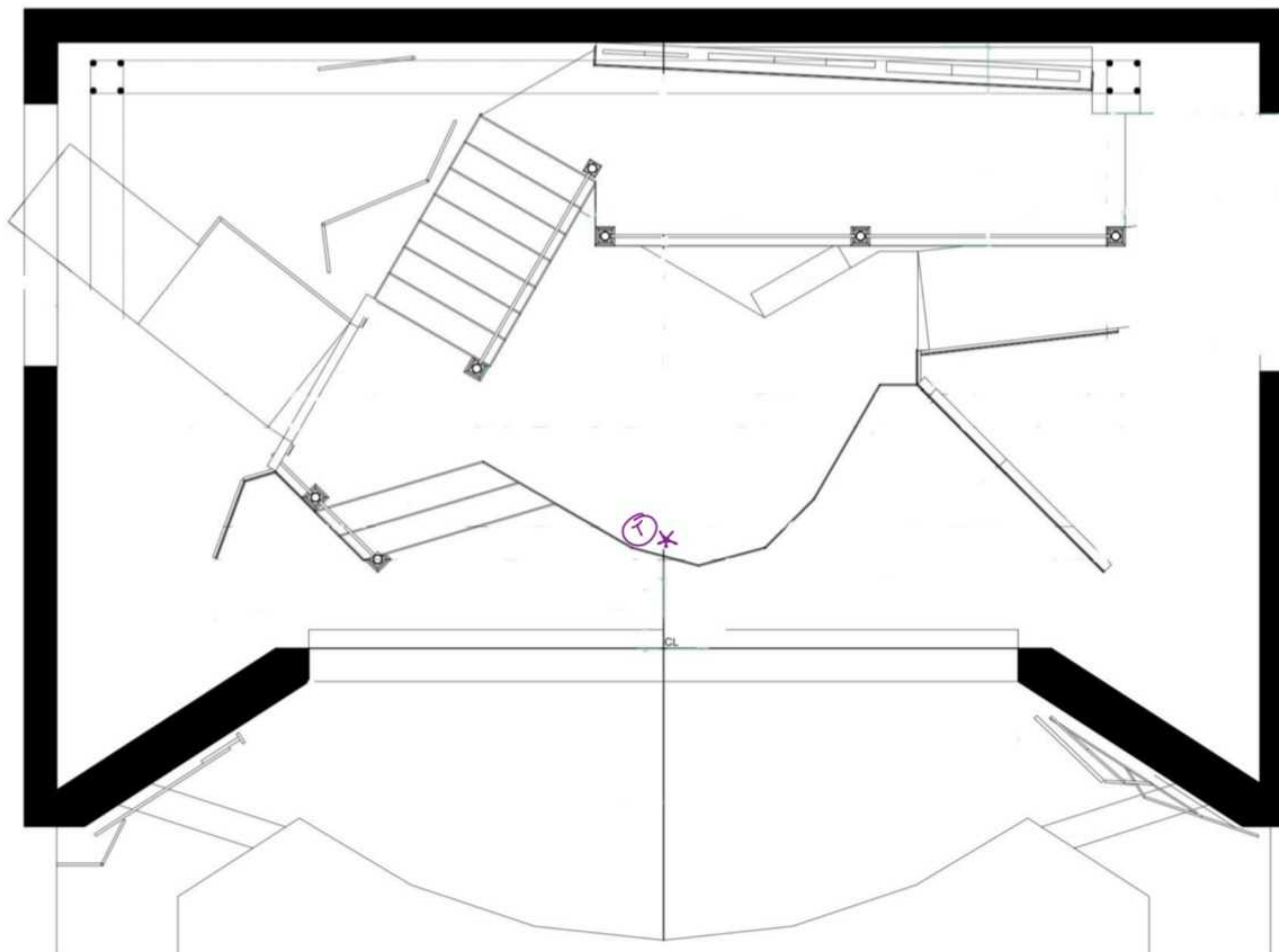
GEORGE
(rising from chair)
Families! I don't want the families over here!

TOMMY
Excuse me...excuse me...

MARY
Have a hectic day?

GEORGE
(bitterly)
Oh, yeah, another big red letter day for the Baileys.

PETE
Daddy, the Browns next door have a new car. You should see it.



Notes

GEORGE
(turns on PETE)
Well, what's the matter with our car? Isn't it good enough for you?

PETE
Yes, Daddy.

TOMMY
Excuse me, excuse me...

GEORGE
(annoyed)
Excuse you for what?

TOMMY
I burped!

MARY
All right, darling, you're excused. Now go see what little Zuzu wants. (1) x to (2)

GEORGE
Zuzu! What's the matter with Zuzu?

MARY
Oh, she's got a cold. She's lying down on the sofa. Caught it coming home from school. They gave her a flower for a prize and she didn't want to crush it so she didn't button up her coat. (1) x to DS platform; lay down *

GEORGE
What is it, a sore throat or what?

MARY
Just a cold. The doctor says it's nothing serious.

GEORGE
The doctor? Was the doctor here?

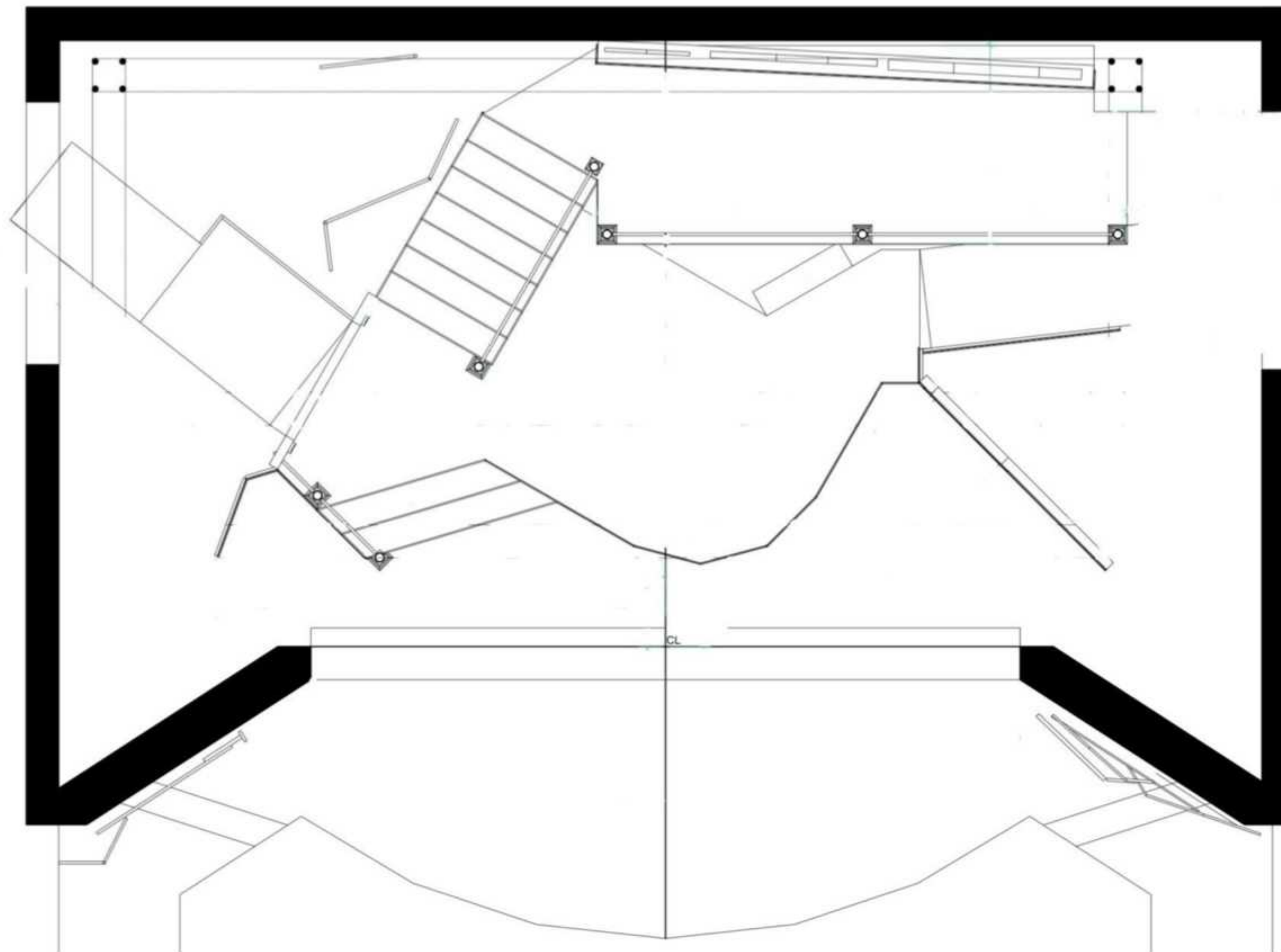
MARY
Yes, I called him right away. He says it's nothing to worry about.

GEORGE
Is she running a temperature? What is it?

MARY
Just a teensie one — ninety-nine, six. She'll be all right.

GEORGE
Gosh, it's this old house. I don't know why we don't all have pneumonia. This drafty old barn! Might as well be living in a refrigerator. Why did we have to live here in the first place and stay around this measly, crummy old town? (1) x to (2)

MARY
(worried)
George, what's wrong?



Notes

GEORGE
Wrong? Everything's wrong! You call this a happy family? Why did we have to have all these kids? $\textcircled{G} \times \text{SR}$

PETE
Dad, how do you spell frankincense?

GEORGE
I don't know. Ask your mother. Janie, stop playing that piano. Zuzu's trying to rest.

JANIE
But, I have to get ready for the party.
 $\textcircled{G} \times \rightarrow \textcircled{ZB}$ \textcircled{M} $\textcircled{T} \times \rightarrow \textcircled{r} \textcircled{f} \textcircled{w} \textcircled{c} \textcircled{a} \textcircled{r}$
MARY
Janie dear, just stop for a minute. You can play a little later.
(GEORGE moves over to find ZUZU on the sofa...she is holding her prize flower)

ZUZU
Hi, Daddy.

GEORGE
Well, what happened to you?

ZUZU
I won a flower.
(ZUZU starts to get up)

GEORGE
Wait now. Where do you think you're going?

ZUZU
Want to give my flower a drink.

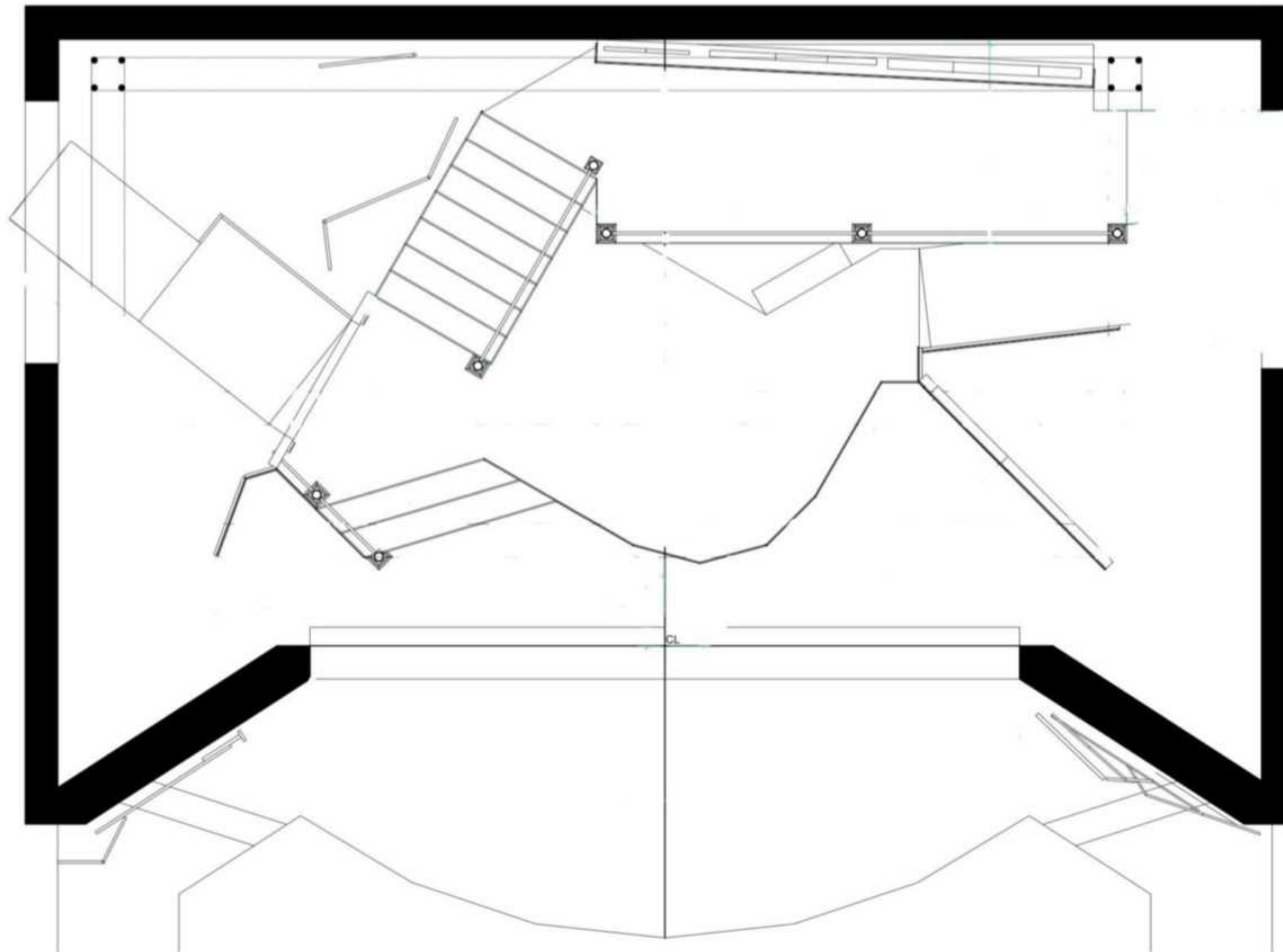
GEORGE
All right, all right. Here, give Daddy the flower. I'll give it a drink.
(ZUZU shakes her head and presses the flower to her...a few petals fall off...she picks them up)

ZUZU
Look, Daddy...paste it. The petals came off.

GEORGE
Yeah, all right. Now, I'll paste this together.
(ZUZU hands him the fallen petals and the flower...he turns his back to ZUZU, pretending to be tinkering with the flower...he sticks the fallen petals in his watch pocket, rearranges the flower, and then turns back to ZUZU)

GEORGE
There it is, good as new. Now, will you do something for me?

ZUZU
What?



Notes

GEORGE
Will you try to get some sleep?

ZUZU
I'm not sleepy. I want to look at my flower.

GEORGE
I know...I know, but you just go to sleep, and then you can dream about it, and it'll be a whole garden.

ZUZU
It will?

GEORGE
Uh-huh.
(JANIE starts playing "Hark, The Herald" again) / (T) play w/ toy LOUD

PETE
Daddy, how do you spell Hallelujah?

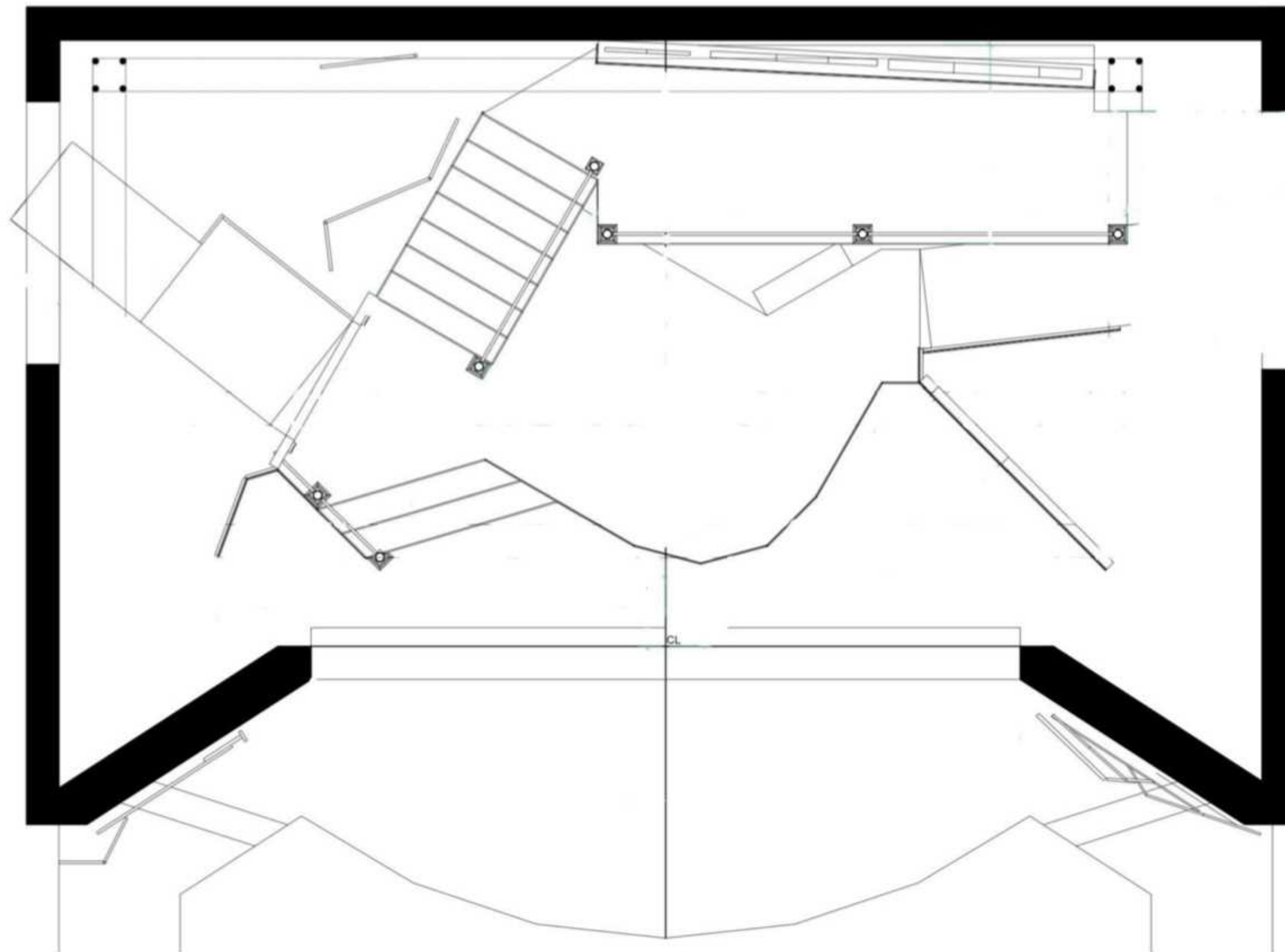
GEORGE
How should I know? What do you think I am, a dictionary?
(he yells at TOMMY, noisily playing with his toy)
Tommy, stop that! Stop it!
(JANIE is still practicing at the piano, monotonously)
Janie, haven't you learned that silly tune yet? You've played it over and over again.
Now stop it! Stop it! / G throw ☐; beat, kick DS ☐ / (T) grab M's leg
(The room has suddenly become ominously quiet, the only sound being GEORGE's labored breathing...in his anger, he knocks over some of the Christmas decorations...he is acting totally out of character...MARY and the children watch, horrified...GEORGE looks around and sees them staring at him as if he were some unknown wild animal...the three children are crying)

GEORGE (CONT'D)
I'm sorry, Mary, Janie. I'm sorry. I didn't mean...you go on and practice. Pete, I owe you an apology, too. I'm sorry. What do you want to know?

PETE
(holding back his tears)
Nothing, Daddy.
(MARY and the children stare at him, stunned by his furious outburst...there is silence in the room)

GEORGE
What's the matter with everybody? Janie, go on. I told you to practice.
(shouts)
Now, go on, play!
(JANIE breaks into sobs)

JANIE
Oh, Daddy... / (T) x to M; hug
88



entr 2 Harmon (Table + suitcase/garland) R1 Jonah (Table + chair) R1

Notes

Zuzu - Blacket L1

Mary (phone), Janie, Tommy (Toy), Pete L4

entr 4 Dakota (Tree), Mason (crate) L4

(intercom)
 (P) (A) ent L2

MARY
 (in an outburst)
 George, why must you torture the children?

#34 ACT II, SCENE 5

MARY
 Why don't you...
 (the sight of MARY and the children suffering is too much for GEORGE)

Mary... / (G) et L2 i (W) X to phone on steps
 (GEORGE looks around, confused, then quickly exits...MARY goes to the phone, picks it up)

MARY
 Bedford, two-four-seven, please.

PETE
 Is Daddy in trouble?

JANIE
 Shall I pray for him?

MARY
 Yes, Janie, pray very hard.

TOMMY
 Me, too?

MARY
 You too, Tommy.
 (as MARY is on the phone, the children gather together on their knees to pray)

MARY
 Hello, Uncle Billy?
 (music continues as the lights fade to black)