Applely Ever After

by
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Performance Rights

STORY OF THE PLAY

The people in the Apple Kingdom live on apples: apple soup, apple salad and, of course, apple pies. Jonathan and Blossom are two fun-loving but not-so-innocent twins, and on their birthday they play a trick on the townspeople that backfires. They say that an "applephoon" is coming that will destroy all of the apples in the kingdom's orchards. The villagers, all being selfish, immediately run to the orchards and begin picking all the apples and carrying them home by the buckets full. After all the apples are picked the villagers find that they are stricken with a strange case of "appleplexy" -- their arms won't bend at the elbows. They soon realize they will never eat apples again. The solution to the problem is very simple, if they would only stop being so selfish!

"The concept...is universal...the script is cleverly written...I feel that 5th graders to adults could perform this play well. It's a delight for children of all ages."
                    - BYU Children's Book Review"

CAST OF CHARACTERS
4 m, 4 w, 1 boy, 1 girl, and extras

APPLESAP: The wise fool.

JONATHAN: Twin to Blossom.

BLOSSOM: Twin to Jonathan.

GRANNY SMITH: Grandmother to the twins.

DOROTHY DUMPLING: Villager who likes the doctor.

DOCTOR CRAB: Village's cranky physician.

PROF. STRUDEL: Villager who builds a machine.

MRS. STRUDEL: Professor's wife.

MISS WOOD: Villager who tries to hypnotize.

KING CORE: Ruler who demands a solution.

HORN BLOWER: (Non-speaking) King's attendant.

DRUMMER: (Non-speaking) King's attendant.

FLAG CARRIER: (Non-speaking) King's attendant.

VARIOUS TOWNSPEOPLE: Any number.

SCENES

Scene 1 – The village square
Scene 2 – Same, the following morning
Scene 3 – Same, the morning after

SETTING

The village square can be as simple or as decorative as desired. It is necessary that at SL there be the trunk of a large apple tree that goes up and out of sight. Several branches of the tree should be visible as they spread toward SR. Around the trunk of this tree is a circular bench. Another bench is situated as SR. Other shrubs, flowers and perhaps a white picket fence at the back would also be desirable.

Scene 1

(AT RISE: The village square on a happily, appley morning. APPLESAP enters and goes to the tree, looks at the audience and declares…)

APPLESAP: This is an apple tree! *(Picks an apple.)* This is an apple! *(Indicates stage and beyond.)* And this is the Apple Kingdom! *(Comes DS to speak to the audience.)* It's called the Apple Kingdom because that's what we eat - in fact, that's all we eat. *(HE takes a bite with pleasure.)* We love apples. In fact, I would say we love them too much. We love them more than we love each other. And that's the whole trouble!

(APPLESAP presents the following as a rap number. If desired other VILLAGERS can join him.)

    Just listen, listen and you'll see what we are missin'!
    The story is old, like the gold that was sold
    By the outlaws to the sheriff who'd gone bad.
    Me first! Me first! That's the worst,
    I say the worst of all the rotten, selfish words that
    Takes a town like ours, a happy town,
    And brings it down, way down.

    So here's the problem that I'm speaking of:
    Plenty of selfishness and not enough love!
    Where's the love?
    Looking here, looking there, they don't care.
    Plenty of selfishness and not enough love!

    You're in the story too--yes, you!
    We're not the only ones.
    Remember last December when that basketball was all
    Like the only thing you wanted?
    And there, right there by your sister's teddy bear

APPLESAP: *(Cont'd.)*
   Was the ball, the ball,
   That ball that was all you wanted?
   And your brother said wow, can I play too,
   Like today with you? Okay with you?
   Today? No way! Not now, not now, never mind wow.
   This is mine, mine,
   And look who's already standing in line--
   First me! Then me! Then me!

   Same old problem that I'm speaking of:
   Plenty of selfishness and not enough love!
   Where's the love?
   Looking here, looking there, you didn't care.
   Here, there, nobody cares.
   Plenty of selfishness, piles and stacks of selfishness.
   Listen, listen, love is what we're missin'.
   Plenty of selfishness and not enough love!

APPLESAP: *(Cont'd.)* Here come the ones who start it all - Jonathan and Blossom. And with them is Granny Smith. They're the - well, you'll see for yourselves. *(HE starts to exit, stops.)* Who, me? Oh, I'm Applesap. People think I'm the village idiot. But I'm smart enough to know this: when you get as selfish as we are, you're in for trouble.

(HE exits. JONATHAN and BLOSSOM run on from SR playing catch with an apple. They are followed by GRANNY SMITH.)

JONATHAN: Here - catch!
BLOSSOM: *(Backing away and holding out her hands.)* I'm ready!
JONATHAN: No. Back farther. Farther!

(BLOSSOM backs up till she is almost at the bench SR.)

BLOSSOM: Throw it!
JONATHAN: Just a little farther.

End of Freeview

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