

BEAUTY AND THE CREEP

By Craig Sodaro

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STORY OF THE PLAY

Jimmy Martin's the coolest cat at Buddy Holly High, until one night in the school library when a new girl appears. She's so strange, Jimmy and his friends can't help but make fun of her. Unfortunately, Jimmy finds himself turned into the classic nerd, Clarence Doogle, and his friends turn into his school supplies ... a ruler, protractor, eraser, and crayon. The worst part of it all is that the spell will last until a "fair damsel" asks Clarence Doogle out!

A year passes, and Jimmy's spot as coolest cat has been taken over by Tyson Bycepps III, whose girlfriend, Brenda, is the head cheerleader at Buddy Holly. Everyone at the Malt Shop is quite aware of the Creep's existence, but are shocked when he actually enters the Malt Shop to try and get a date with one of the girls. Shortly after, Audrey, a new girl, stops by for a Coke. Tyson is immediately taken with her beauty and puts the moves on her. She is clearly not interested, but Tyson's interest infuriates Brenda.

To complicate matters, a trio of down and out con-ladies arrive with a plan to kidnap one of the kids in town and hold her for ransom, a la "Ransom of Red Chief." The leader, Sabrina, poses as a Hollywood talent scout in search of a new love for Elvis Presley and announces auditions at the Malt Shop the following day. In this way Sabrina hopes to have the girls answer personal questions like, "How much does you father make?" in order to determine which kid is richest. Of course, the disinterested Audrey turns out to be the best catch, and Sabrina and her thugs kidnap the unsuspecting student, hiding her someplace where nobody will look - the school library. Unfortunately for Sabrina, that's exactly where the Creep and his friends have been hiding out for the past year, and when Clarence Doogle finds out Audrey's in danger, he and his school supplies come to the rescue.

CHARACTERS

(4 m, 18 w, 2 flexible, doubling possible)

BETTY: A popular high school student.

NITA: Her friend.

DARLA: Another friend.

JIMMY: The most popular boy in school.

RICK: His best friend.

EMMY: A high school student.

LESLIE: A strange girl.

BRENDA CARTER: The head cheerleader.

MITZI: Her friend.

LORRAINE: Another friend.

TYSON BYCEPPS III: Star of the gridiron.

DOTTIE: Another cheerleader.

SHIRLEY: Still another.

ROCKY: Tyson's friend.

RUBY: Waitress at the Malt Shop.

CAROLE: A high school student.

AUDREY: The new girl in school.

MISS CRABBITT: The high school principal.

MISS GLOBSNICK: The school nurse.

SABRINA SNIVLETT: A Hollywood talent scout.

PUMPKIN: Her assistant.

CHERRY: Her other assistant.

OFFICER CRAWLY: A police person.

OFFICER DRAWLY: Another.

TIME: Fall, 1963.

PLACE: The small town of Gilpin Grove.

SYNOPSIS OF PLAY

ACT I

Scene 1: Library of Buddy Holly High, Fall, 1963.

Scene 2: Malt Shop, a year later.

Scene 3: Malt Shop, the following day.

ACT II

Scene 1: Library of Buddy Holly High, a short time later.

Scene 2: Corner of First and Main, immediately after.

Scene 3: Library of Buddy Holly High, a few minutes later.

SETTING

Scene 1: The library of Buddy Holly High. Bookshelves USR and USL. Library counter at CS complete with "Return Books Here" slot. Table DSR with three typewriters on it, bench behind. Small work table and two or three chairs at SL.

Scene 2: The Malt Shop. Counter at CS. Behind the counter a few shelves with pies, cakes, and cookies on them. Two or three tables SL, SR and CS, with scattered chairs around the tables. A jukebox is very appropriate.

Scene 3: The corner of First and Main. Played before the curtain, bare stage.

SOUND EFFECTS

Thunder, loud crash, offstage bang, chase music, magical music.

***NOTE:** See PRODUCTION NOTES in back of playbook for props, costumes and tips for set construction.

ACT I
Scene 1

(AT RISE: BETTY LOU, NITA and DARLA sit at CS table typing furiously. JIMMY and RICK stand UPC tossing a football.)

BETTY: Almost done with page 22, Jimmy!

NITA: Page 23 will be done in a minute, Jimmy!

(DARLA pulls out her page, briskly, and lays it on pile at center of table.)

DARLA: Page 24 completed ahead of schedule, Jimmy.

BETTY: It's not fair! You took Typing II, Darla!

NITA: Yeah. Besides, I gotta blister on my pinkie, and it makes hittin' the "P" real tough.

JIMMY: It's okay, girls. Just so you got my history paper ready to put on old Griermeier's desk tomorrow morning at eight.

DARLA: It'll be done, Jimmy.

BETTY: Footnotes, too!

NITA: Footnotes? We gotta write somethin' with our FEET?

DARLA: Oh, Nita, get back to work.

NITA: I just wanna double check. You're takin' us to the Malt Shop for soda when we're done, right, Jimmy?

JIMMY: *(Smoothly.)* Any flavor you want, Nita, Baby.

BETTY: Gosh, a soda with Jimmy just for typing his fifty page history paper.

NITA: It's like teen heaven!

(DARLA, NITA and BETTY sigh loudly, staring at JIMMY.)

JIMMY: Girls? The meter's running! *(DARLA, NITA and BETTY snap to it and begin typing. RICK moves DS. JIMMY throws the ball at his head. Rick doesn't even feel it when it hits.)* Hey, good buddy ... pal ... Rick?

RICK: You talkin' to me?

JIMMY: I just hit you in the head with a football!

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RICK: So? What do I need my head for? What do I need anything for?

JIMMY: What's this? Down in the dumps, pal?

RICK: Who wouldn't be with YOU around. You're so cool, you've got every girl drooling in your hand.

JIMMY: Wow, pal ... that's like, pretty disgusting. *(HE combs his hair.)*

RICK: But it's true! They'll do ANYTHING for you!

JIMMY: You're exaggerating.

(EMMY enters SL.)

EMMY: Hi, Jimmy

JIMMY: Hi, Emmy.

EMMY: You got everything ready?

JIMMY: It's right over here. *(HE points to laundry basket full of dirty clothes.)*

EMMY: Oh, Jimmy, you don't know how much this means to me.

RICK: Emmy ... you're just washing some clothes!

EMMY: But they're Jimmy's clothes!

(DARLA, NITA, and BETTY sigh.)

JIMMY: Gosh, Emmy ... thanks a bunch. I don't know what I'd do without you.

RICK: Probably get lice.

(EMMY backs out, staring at JIMMY.)

JIMMY: C'mon, Rick. I can't help it if I'm irresistible.

RICK: But WHY?

JIMMY: I think it's a combination of factors, good buddy. First of all, I've got a good complexion. Second, I've got great hair. Have you EVER seen greater hair? And most important ... I've got a reputation! Let me show you something. *(HE whips out his wallet. NITA, DARLA, and BETTY rush to look over his shoulder.)*

End of Freeview

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