

Plays for Teen Actors Even Parents Can Enjoy

Vol. I

By Elaine Taylor

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ABOUT THIS COLLECTION

Here's a perfect resource book for producing plays in your grade school or junior high classroom. All three plays have roles which are mostly flexible in gender to include as many students as possible. The plays have interesting plots, easy settings, and short, easy-to-learn lines. Your student actors will have fun developing and portraying the varied characters.

THE STATE VS. WOLF

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10 to 11 actors and optional jury

1 setting. 30 to 40 minutes.

The Big Bad Wolf is on trial for breaking and entering Granny Hood's house, imprisoning her in a closet, impersonating her, and threatening her granddaughter Little Red. He says he's innocent and was just playing a game of tag. The jury hears all the evidence and makes a decision!

CINDERELLA

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6 m, 9 w

3 suggested settings. 45 minutes to an hour.

A beautiful woman and her two beautiful daughters make Cinderella do everything around the house, including fixing their gowns for an important ball. The event is being put on by the parents of the most eligible bachelor in the kingdom! Cinderella is told she cannot attend by her stepmother, but luckily Cinderella's fairy godmother intervenes. The two sisters try to impress the bachelor, but he has already met the stepsister who interests him.

HEIDI OF THE HILLS

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3 m, 6 w

Several suggested locations. About 60-90 minutes.

The story of a young girl sent to live with her cranky grandfather is still well loved but this version is moved to the Great Smokey Mountains of Tennessee.

IMPORTANT NOTE: *The plays in this collection may be produced in class royalty free, but a reasonable royalty fee is due when performed in front of any kind of an audience, whether or not admission is charged. Please see application form at the end of the script.*

STATE vs. WOLF

(2-3 m, 4 w, 4 flexible, and optional jury)

BAILIFF: *(Flexible role)* Keeps the judge on track.

JUDGE: *(Flexible role)* Knows the law and upholds it.

PROSECUTOR: *(Flexible role)* Has a good case against the wolf and tries to prove it.

DEFENSE: *(Flexible role)* Is highly intelligent and noted for getting people off.

MRS. HOOD: A kind but dippy lady, mother of Red, daughter-in-law to Granny.

MISS PIG: Barbie Q. Pig, witness for the prosecution.

GRANNY: Scared old lady.

MR. GREEN: Strong woodsman.

WOLF: Gentle critter who has a bad rep.

RED: Sweet little girl who is naive.

JURY CHAIRMAN: Can be played by Mr. Green.

JURY: Can be any number of people or none.

SETTING

All action takes place in the courtroom.

Scene 1 - Opening statements and prosecution.

Scene 2 - Defense and closing statements.

Scene 1

BAILIFF: Court is now in session. All stand for the Honorable Judge James (*Jane*) W. Paupner, presiding. The case of the State vs. William Wesley Wolf the Third.

JUDGE: (*While sitting down.*) You may be seated. Does the Prosecution have an opening statement?

PROSECUTOR: We do, Your Honor. Members of the jury, we will show that Mr. Wolf did willfully and maliciously attempt to murder Rosemary Hood. That he is guilty of breaking and entering Granny Hood's house and that he did forcibly imprison her in a closet with intentions of malfeasance. We will prove beyond a shadow of a doubt that Mr. Wolf should be prosecuted to the full extent of the law. Thank you.

JUDGE: Mr. Batlock, opening statement for the Defense?

DEFENSE: Your Honor, my distinguished colleague, and members of the jury; this man you see before you has been feared and maligned all his life. We plan to show you not only reasonable doubt, but to convince you that in reality all Mr. Wolf is guilty of, is trying too hard to make friends. When we have presented our case, we want you to understand this man and bring a verdict of not guilty, proving to him that justice can be served, even to a man of ill repute. Thank you.

JUDGE: Mr. Prosecutor, first witness.

PROSECUTOR: (*To BAILIFF.*) I call Mrs. Red Hood to the stand.

(*MRS. HOOD comes to witness stand.*)

BAILIFF: Raise your right hand and place the other on the Bible. Do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

MRS. HOOD: I do.

BAILIFF: Please have a seat.

PROSECUTOR: Now, Mrs. Hood. Would you tell us in your own words what led up to the day in question?

MRS. HOOD: Huh?

PROSECUTOR: What happened on that Sunday afternoon of September 6th?

MRS. HOOD: I got a phone call from Granny telling me she wasn't feeling well.

PROSECUTOR: What time was that?

MRS. HOOD: Ten o'clock. I know that because "Sweet Valley High" was just over and "Beverly Hills, 90210" was coming on.

PROSECUTOR: I see, and what did you propose to do for Granny, uh ... the elder Mrs. Hood?

MRS. HOOD: I told her I'd make her some soup and send it to her house with Rosemary.

PROSECUTOR: And did you?

MRS. HOOD: Yes, I did; along with some cookies and a piece of cake we had for dessert last night.

PROSECUTOR: And what did Little Rosemary tell you happened that day?

DEFENSE: Objection! Hearsay evidence.

JUDGE: Sustained. You will keep your inquiry to what your witness knows firsthand.

PROSECUTOR: Yes, Your Honor. Mrs. Hood, did you give your daughter any specific directions on the afternoon in question?

DEFENSE: Objection! The Prosecution is leading the witness.

JUDGE: Overruled. You may answer the question.

MRS. HOOD: I told her not to cut through the woods, stay on the path, and don't talk to strangers.

PROSECUTOR: And did she?

DEFENSE: Objection! Hearsay.

JUDGE: Sustained.

PROSECUTOR: No more questions, Your Honor.

JUDGE: Does the Defense wish to cross-examine?

DEFENSE: Please, Your Honor. Mrs. Hood, I'm sure your daughter is a very good girl who is usually very obedient. Did you have any difficulty getting her to leave "90210" to take the goodies to Granny?

MRS. HOOD: No, she likes her Granny and likes to visit her.

DEFENSE: No more questions, Your Honor, but I would like permission to recall this witness in the future should I feel the need.

JUDGE: *(Nods.)* Mr. Prosecutor, call your second witness, please.

PROSECUTOR: I call Barbie Q. Pig to the stand.

DEFENSE: Objection! Your Honor, Miss Pig has nothing to do with this case. Her testimony is irrelevant and prejudicial.

JUDGE: Approach the bench, please.

(BOTH LAWYERS get in a vigorous pantomimed discussion with the JUDGE.)

JUDGE: I agree that the testimony of this witness may be prejudicial, but you yourself brought up your client's reputation in your opening statement. I'm going to allow the testimony of this witness.

DEFENSE: But, Your Honor!

JUDGE: Mr. Batlock, that's enough! Bailiff, swear in the witness, please.

BAILIFF: Do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

MISS PIG: I do.

PROSECUTOR: Miss Pig, do you know the defendant, Mr. William Wesley Wolf?

MISS PIG: I do.

PROSECUTOR: How do you know him?

MISS PIG: He came to my house, banged on the door, and threatened me.

DEFENSE: Objection! The witness is testifying to my client's state of mind.

JUDGE: Overruled.

PROSECUTOR: In what way did he threaten you?

MISS PIG: He told me to let him in and when I said no, he said he'd blow my house down.

PROSECUTOR: And did he?

MISS PIG: No. I built my house with bricks and mortar, but my brothers weren't as lucky.

PROSECUTOR: How do you mean?

MISS PIG: My younger brother built his house out of straw and the wolf blew it down.

DEFENSE: Objection! Hearsay.

JUDGE: Sustained.

PROSECUTOR: Did you see him blow it down?

MISS PIG: No, but my brother ran to my house when his was destroyed and warned me of the danger.

DEFENSE: Objection! *(With total disgust.)* Your Honor!

JUDGE: Sustained. Mr. Prosecutor, please direct your witness to only testify to what she knows first-hand.

PROSECUTOR: No more questions, Your Honor.

JUDGE: Defense?

DEFENSE: Miss Pig, when did this happen?

MISS PIG: A year ago last July.

DEFENSE: And did you or your brothers call the authorities at that time?

MISS PIG: No.

DEFENSE: Why not?

MISS PIG: We had no evidence to prove our case.

DEFENSE: And, Ladies and Gentlemen, there is still no evidence to prove my client has done anything wrong.

PROSECUTOR: Objection! Is this some sort of question? If it is, I doubt Miss Pig can answer it.

DEFENSE: Did you personally see Mr. Wolf do any of the things you're alluding to, Miss Pig?

MISS PIG: No, but....

DEFENSE: No more questions, Your Honor.

JUDGE: You may step down, Miss Pig. Mr. Prosecutor, do you have any more witnesses?

PROSECUTOR: Three more, Your Honor.

JUDGE: *(Rolls eyes and looks at watch. Sighs.)* Call the next one then.

PROSECUTOR: I call the elder Mrs. Hood to the stand.

BAILIFF: Do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God.

GRANNY: I do.

BAILIFF: Please have a seat.

End of Freeview

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