

REVENGE OF THE SNERD

1-Act Comedy
By J. R. De Long

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SYNOPSIS

Smedley S. Snerd, a typical nerd hero, is the star student of Miss Fossil's geology class. He's got a big crush on Marybelle Moosenheimer, the heroine, star cheerleader, and member of the Locks, a group which values their beautiful hair.

Other peer groups include the Rocks, who are into heavy metal music; the Jocks, who are athletically inclined; and the Rolls, a gang of hoodlums led by infamous macho villain, Mr. G.

Unfortunately for Smedley, Mr. G also has his eye on Marybelle. But brain outwits brawn as Smedley uses his marbles to trip up Mr. G and his gang, win Marybelle's hand and explain to Miss Fossil the real origins of rock and roll.

Puns and guffaws are guaranteed by the "quartz" in this easy-to-stage 1-act.

CAST OF CHARACTERS

*(Flexible cast of 18)**

SMEDLEY S. SNERD: The hero, a weak, bumbling “nerd”.

MARYBELLE MOOSENHEIMER: His gal; a star cheerleader and member of the Locks.

MR. G: Villain and evil leader of the Rollers. Dumb, macho and muscular Mr. T type.

MISS FOSSIL: Nearsighted geology teacher; knows her rocks.

SIDNEY S. SNERD: Smedley's father; a carbon copy of his son.

SALLY S. SNERD: Smedley's mom; also looks like Smedley.

NARRATOR: Fills in the gaps.

STAGEHAND: *(non-speaking.)* Carries signs.

JOCKS: *(Athletic clique.)* Crusher, Jocko, and Rocko.

ROCKS: *(Into heavy metal music.)* Rocko Gibraltar, Plymouth De Soto, and Barney Stone.

LOCKS: *(They prize their hair.)* Bunny Hop, Suzy Qute, and Roxy Peroxy.

ROLLS: *(A gang of hoodlums.)* Royce Rolls and Tootsie

*Specific male roles are: Smedley, his father, and Mr. G. Specific females roles are: Marybelle, Smedley's mother, and Miss Fossil. With the possible exception of the Locks, most of the other parts may be played by either males or females. Casting one or two female Jocks might add to the comic effect. Mrs. Snerd can double as Miss Fossil and Mr. Snerd can double as a member of the Rocks.

SETTING

Although the action of the play takes place in three settings, by use of area lighting, all three can be set up on stage at one time. The Snerd kitchen is SR, school hallway CS, and the classroom SL. The Narrator speaks during transitions. The sets need only be suggestions and not complete rooms.

COSTUMES/CHARACTERISTICS

JOCKS dress in sweatsuits, tank tops, or cut off T-shirts and jogging shorts. Some could wear preppy letter sweaters or jackets.

LOCKS, in cheerleader outfits, have badly done make-up - false eyelashes, heavy rouge, crooked eyeliner, etc. They wear wigs or mop wigs shaped in wildly exaggerated hair styles. Under wigs they wear bald caps to hide their regular hair.

ROCKS dress like punk rock stars and wear headphones plugged into rocks painted different psychedelic colors.

ROLLS wear motorcycle gang attire—black leather, chains, boots, gloves, skull T-shirts, sunglasses, etc.

MISS FOSSIL wears thick glasses and a frizzed-out wig with a bun that keeps slipping over her eyes. Dressed in any baggy type house dress and carries a thick ruler for banging on table. Also wears several gaudy rings and necklaces.

MR. SNERD wears nerdy bathrobe and slippers and MRS. SNERD wears fuzzy slippers, rollers, cold cream plastered on face, and bathrobe. Both wear glasses with pop-bottle lenses.

SMEDLEY should wear white shirt, white socks, string necktie, plaid pants with very short hems, glasses taped together. He has slicked back hair, and sports an incredible arsenal of pens and pencils protruding from a plastic pouch in his breast pocket. The whole family has high, nasal voices and strange laughs.

PROPS

Stool (*Narrator*); 3 pairs of black, horned-rimmed “nerd” style glasses; sports section of a newspaper; 3 cereal bowls (*1 large enough for a face to fit in*); box of Rice Krispies; flashlight; assorted kitchen utensils; bag of marbles; giant slide rule and notebook; hankie (*Smedley*); 1-2 drum major type batons (*Jocks*); 4 wigs, one with TV antenna; baldcaps, pom-poms, cut out letters T and Z (*Locks*); 3 sets of headphones connected to rocks (*Rocks*); ruler, assorted rings and jewelry, pebbles (*Fossil*); purse and bottle of perfume (*Marybelle*); “He can’t pass geology!” sign (*Narrator*); “!! CENSORED !!” and “!! BUT !!” signs (*Stagehand*). “CHEER!” and “BOO!” signs may also be used at appropriate places if desired, to give melodramatic effect.

SCENE 1

(AT RISE: The Snerd's kitchen at breakfast. MR. SNERD is seated at the kitchen table buried behind the sports section of the daily tabloid. MRS. SNERD scurries about the kitchen fixing breakfast. LIGHTS rise gradually as NARRATOR enters and takes position on stool SR.)

NARRATOR: Once upon a time in the not so distant future, there was a young boy named Smedley S. Snerd, who some claimed was the smartest boy in the world at that time. At least his parents, Sidney and Sally Snerd, kept telling him that he was. Every morning at the breakfast table, Mr. and Mrs. Snerd would beam with pride at the budding intelligence of their little man.

(ENTER SMEDLEY. As soon as HE enters, MRS. SNERD grabs a flashlight and shines it in HIS face.)

SMEDLEY: *(In HIS very nasal voice.)* Hi, Mom! Hi, Dad. *(Stops, squints at flashlight as THEY respond with enthusiastic "Hi, Smedley.")* Uh, Mom, why are you shining that flashlight in my face?

MRS. SNERD: *(Talks in identical voice to SMEDLEY.)* Didn't you hear what the nice man said, Smedley? He said, "Every day Smedley's parents beamed with pride when he came to breakfast."

SMEDLEY: Not beam as in flashlight, Mom, beam as in smile, see?

(SMEDLEY points to face as HE does a "nerd" laugh. This can be accomplished by sucking air in and vocalizing a sound at the same time, or making some other humorous laugh.)

MRS. SNERD: You are sooo smart, Smedley! Sidney, isn't our little Smedley smart?

MR. SNERD: *(From behind paper, also imitates SMEDLEY'S way of speaking.)* Ummm hmmm! Smart!

(THEY laugh together in unison using a laugh that is identical to SMEDLEY'S.)

MRS. SNERD: Now, Smedley, you sit down and eat your breakfast or you'll be late for school.

SMEDLEY: Okay, Mom.

MRS. SNERD: *(To HER HUSBAND, still hidden behind the morning paper at breakfast table.)* And Sidney, stop reading the paper and eat your Rice Krispies, before they get all soggy yicky!

MR. SNERD: Umm, hmm! Yicky. *(Not moving from behind paper.)*

SMEDLEY: Don't worry, Mom! Dad never even puts milk on his cereal until he's done reading the sports.

MRS. SNERD: Don't be ridiculous, Smedley! How can you tell what your father does with his cereal when he hides behind that paper every morning?

SMEDLEY: Easy, Mom! Just listen! See? There's no snap or crackle from Pop! *(Does nerd type laugh.)*

MRS. SNERD: By golly, Smedley you're right! I never thought of that! Sidney, isn't little Smedley smart?

MR. SNERD: *(From behind paper.)* Umm hmm. Smart. *(HE echoes SMEDLEY'S laugh.)*

MRS. SNERD: So tell me, Smedley, since you're so smart, just what does your father read so intensely with his nose buried in the paper every morning?

SMEDLEY: Actually, Mom, Dad isn't nosing the paper. It's the cereal he's nuzzling. He always noses through his cereal first thing before he eats.

MRS. SNERD: A serial? I didn't know that they had serials in the sports section! Why, Sidney! And all these years I thought that you were scanning the latest scores and here you've been absorbing your favorite serial! What's it about? A soap opera about some lovesick baseball players? Oh do let me see what you have your nose buried in, Sidney!

(MRS. SNERD pulls paper away to reveal that HIS nose is buried in his bowl of cereal which he is "reading." Mollified.)

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