

## NOTES

This script may be performed either as a Duo Interpretation or a Dramatic Interpretation. If performed as a Duo Interpretation, a male and a female should perform it. If a teaser is used in the performance, the drama masks indicate where the teaser should end. There are three themes running through the heart of this script: bonding, protecting those unable to protect themselves, and love. The character of David is a tricky one. He is now the parental figure for his sister, Persie; however, he is still very much her playful brother. His kindness and sense of humor should be evident at all times. Persie is equally complex. Yes, she is mentally challenged; however, she is only *slightly* mentally challenged. To overplay her disability would severely lessen the honesty that is necessary to make this script incredibly powerful. Persie's love for puppets should attest that her imagination is as big as her heart. Also, the actress portraying Persie should seriously take the time necessary for the audience to see the thought process as she starts to remember the tragic event that traumatized her years ago. Both performers should be extremely talented at creating animated voices during their puppet shows. The puppet shows should serve as a showcase for both performers and an endearing memory for the audience.

**Time:** The Present

**Location:** David and Persie's house that once belonged to their parents

**Cast of Characters:**

David, 30 years old

Persie, David's 18-year-old mentally challenged sister

**David:** *(To audience)* I was seventeen when my parents passed away. I was a senior in high school and out of town at a swim meet. As is the case sometimes with tragic deaths, my sister, Persie, who was only six at the time, was traumatized by the events and has since suppressed all memories of what happened that night. I should add here that my younger sister is...slow. My grandparents, unable to give Persie the

help she needed, paid for her to go to a special school for girls. The school is famous for it's ability to care for children with special needs. Of course, it was difficult for all of us in the beginning, but eventually, Persie began to thrive. And it was *in* this special school's Creative Arts Program... that Persie found her passion.

**Persie:** (*Playing with her puppets. As the Ugly Duckling*) Doesn't anyone want to play with a little duck? (*As another puppet*) No! You're so ugly, little duck, that we'll give you 364 more days to dress up for Halloween!

**David:** (*To audience*) She loves puppets.

**Persie:** (*As the Ugly Duckling*) Hey, you hurt my feelings! (*As another puppet*) Little duckling, you're so ugly...that if you tried to enter an *ugly* pageant, they'd say, "Sorry. No professionals!"

**David:** (*To audience*) It can be annoying at times.



**Persie:** David, would you play a game with me?

**David:** Sure. What do you want to play?

**Persie:** The letter game.

**David:** Okay. How do you play the letter game?

**Persie:** I'll pick a letter, and every word you say has to start with that letter. Okay?

**David:** Okay. What's the first letter?

**Persie:** *P*.

**David:** Okay. *P*.

**Persie:** Who's your favorite person in the whole wide world?

**David:** (*Saying "That's easy" with P's.*) Pat's peasy. Pit's Persie!

**Persie:** (*Giggling*) What's for dinner tonight?

**David:** Prilled... peese... sandwiches...

**Persie:** And?

**David:** (*He realizes what he is about to say.*) Pomato poup.

**Persie:** Yum. I *love* pomato poup. Poup. Poup. Poup.

**David:** (*Unhappy with how this game is going*) Persie...

**Persie:** Okay, new game. (*She grabs a box of homemade puppets and sets it down in front of them.*) Hmm, what is something *else* we could play that starts with the letter *P*.

**David:** (*Reluctantly*) Puppets?

**Persie:** (*Excited*) You want to play puppets with me?

**David:** Do you *like* to play with puppets?

**Persie:** I *love* to play with puppets!

**David:** Really?

**Persie:** I play with them all the time!

**David:** (*Sarcastically*) No!

**Persie:** Yes! I've made dozens! You've *seen* me put on puppet shows! (*Realizes David is teasing her.*) Ah, you're just teasing me.

**David:** Hey, it comes with the job of being the older brother.

**Persie:** Okay. You pick out two puppets, and I'll pick out two. Then we'll put on a show!

**David:** Okay. I choose the Wolf and The Grinch.

**Persie:** And I'll pick the Pig and Little Red Riding Hood.