

NOTES

Two siblings, a magical blanket, and a world of imagination—these are the stars that illuminate Bryan Denbow’s adventurous tale of a brother and sister learning to bridge the gap between fantasy and reality. *The Incredible Adventures of Maw-Maw’s Blanket* is a play filled with fantasy, humor and heart and should be performed by a male and a female and be entered in either Duo Interpretation or Duet Acting. Physically, this play allows for a great deal of creative blocking. The underlying honesty and innocence of each character will be the driving force behind the humor found throughout this play. Play that humor. Also, Danny and Julie, the two protagonists in this play, must each create an alter-ego through an imaginary friend, whose physical appearance materializes in the form of two hand-puppets. The performers might choose to incorporate actual ventriloquism into the presentation; however, there is a certain charm to seeing children’s lips move as they manipulate their hands, while creating imaginary friends. Sound effects will also be a welcome addition to the overall presentation of this selection. There are many timeless messages found within the text of this play; however, ultimately, this is a story of love and serves as a tribute to the importance of family—all told by two siblings, who while growing up—embrace their childhood innocence with all of the wonderment imagination provides!

Julie: Mom! Danny won’t let me—

Danny: Julie! Be quiet! And get off my blanket!

Julie: You’re not the boss of me, Danny! Mom! Danny won’t let me—

Danny: If you wake Mom up, you’re going to get it! (*Holding her mouth*) Be quiet.

Julie: (*Struggling and muffled by Danny’s hand*) Stop it! Mom! Stop it!

Danny: If you stop screaming, I’ll let you go.

Julie: (*Still muffled*) No! Mom! Mom! (*She bites Danny’s hand*)

Danny: Ouch! (*Danny takes his hand off of Julie’s mouth*) Now you’re really going to get it!

Julie: I’ll tell.

Danny: You better not, or I’ll tell that you bit me! What did Dad say about biting?

Julie: You were smothering me! What did Dad say about trying to kill me?

Danny: I know, but I wasn’t trying to kill you. If you tell on me though, you’ll *wish* you were dead!

Julie: Then let me play, too.

Danny: No.

Julie: Mom!

Danny: Okay. Okay, but only this one time.

Julie: Okay.

Danny: One time! Then you have to go play with your own stuff.

Julie: It's just a stupid blanket. Maw-Maw made me one, too!

Danny: If it's so stupid, then don't play! Besides, your blanket is stupid!

Julie: Maw-Maw made it just for me, just like yours.

Danny: She only made it for you because you're ugly, and she never liked you!

Julie: Nuh-uh!

Danny: She told me.

Julie: No she did not.

Danny: Yes she did.

Julie: When?

Danny: Before.

Julie: I'm telling.

Danny: That's all you ever say! If you want to play, then you have to stop saying that.

Julie: Fine. Why are you always so mean to me anyway?

Danny: You're my little sister. I'm supposed to be. It's like a rule or something.

Julie: Oh, yeah. I forgot.

Danny: The reason my blanket is so special is because Maw-Maw made it out of all her leftover yarn. That's why it's got so many mixed-up colors.

Julie: Like Joseph's coat of many colors?

Danny: Something like that. And even though Maw-Maw made blankets for everyone, mine is special. It's special, because my blanket is made up of all of the leftovers from everyone else's blanket. Since mine is made out of all the extra stuff, I have a little bit of all the love she put into everyone's blankets all mixed up in mine.

Julie: I want one, too.

Danny: You can't. Too bad, so sad.

Julie: That's not fair.

Danny: I know. That's why I'm more special than you.

Julie: I'm tell—I mean "oh!" But Mom and Dad say I'm special, too.

Danny: They just say that, so you won't feel bad.

Julie: (*Hurt*) They do, too, say I'm special. You can ask.

Danny: I'm just joking. Anyway, if you want to play, you have to know the rules. And the rules are easy—even for you. You just have to use your imagination and pretend.

Julie: I can do that easy.

Danny: I know you can. Just like the way you imagine Mom and Dad say that you're special. (*Julie's hurt*) I'm just joking. Anyway, I can use Maw-

The Incredible Adventures of Maw-Maw's Blanket

By Bryan Denbow

Maw's blanket to go anywhere and do anything! Maw-Maw's magical blanket takes me on adventures!

Julie: Really?

Danny: Julie, quick! Step onto the blanket! Now!

Julie: Why?

Danny: The sharks! There are sharks circling all around us! Get on! Now!

Julie: I don't see them!

Danny: Now, now, now! They're getting closer! Hurry, get into the boat!

Julie: (*Jumping onto blanket*) I'm in! I'm in! Where are we, Danny? (*They start to sway with the waves*)

Danny: I'm not Danny! My name is Captain Strong, and you are my faithful servant, Little Sissybabygirl.

Julie: Sissybabygirl? I don't like that name. I want to be Princess Belinda.

Danny: Well, that's too bad, because you are Little Sissybabygirl!

Julie: (*Giving in*) Fine. And I'm the second boss.

Danny: No, Herman the Hand is the second boss. You are the third boss.

Julie: Who's Herman the Hand?

Danny: (*Holding up his fist like a puppet*) Little Sissybabygirl, meet Herman the Hand!

Herman: Hello, Little Sissybabygirl. I am the second boss of this boat.

Julie: Danny—

Danny: Little Sissybabygirl, if you're going to play, you have to play by the rules. There's no Danny on this boat!

Julie: Sorry. But, Captain Strong, I can see your lips moving.

Danny: Julie, do you want me to throw you to the sharks?

Julie: No! Please, don't throw me to the sharks!

Danny: Then start using your imagination! Besides, if I don't move my lips a little bit, Herman can't talk! I don't have that part down yet. I'm still practicing.

Julie: Oh! Well, it's nice to meet you, Herman.

Herman: I already don't like you, Little Sissybabygirl, but you *are* Danny's sister and I am only second boss, so I have too.

Julie: Thanks, Danny—I mean Herman. But I don't like the name Sissybabygirl. I just want to be called Little Girl.

Herman: Glad to have you aboard, Little Sissybabygirl. I hope you know how important our task is!

Danny: That's right, Herman! It's *very* important. We have to find the secret and ancient Pebble of Truth that belongs to the Princess of the Universe.

Julie: Princess Belinda!

Herman: Yes. It *is* Princess Belinda.

Julie: I came up with that name!

Herman: No. Princess Belinda has been around for a long, long time.