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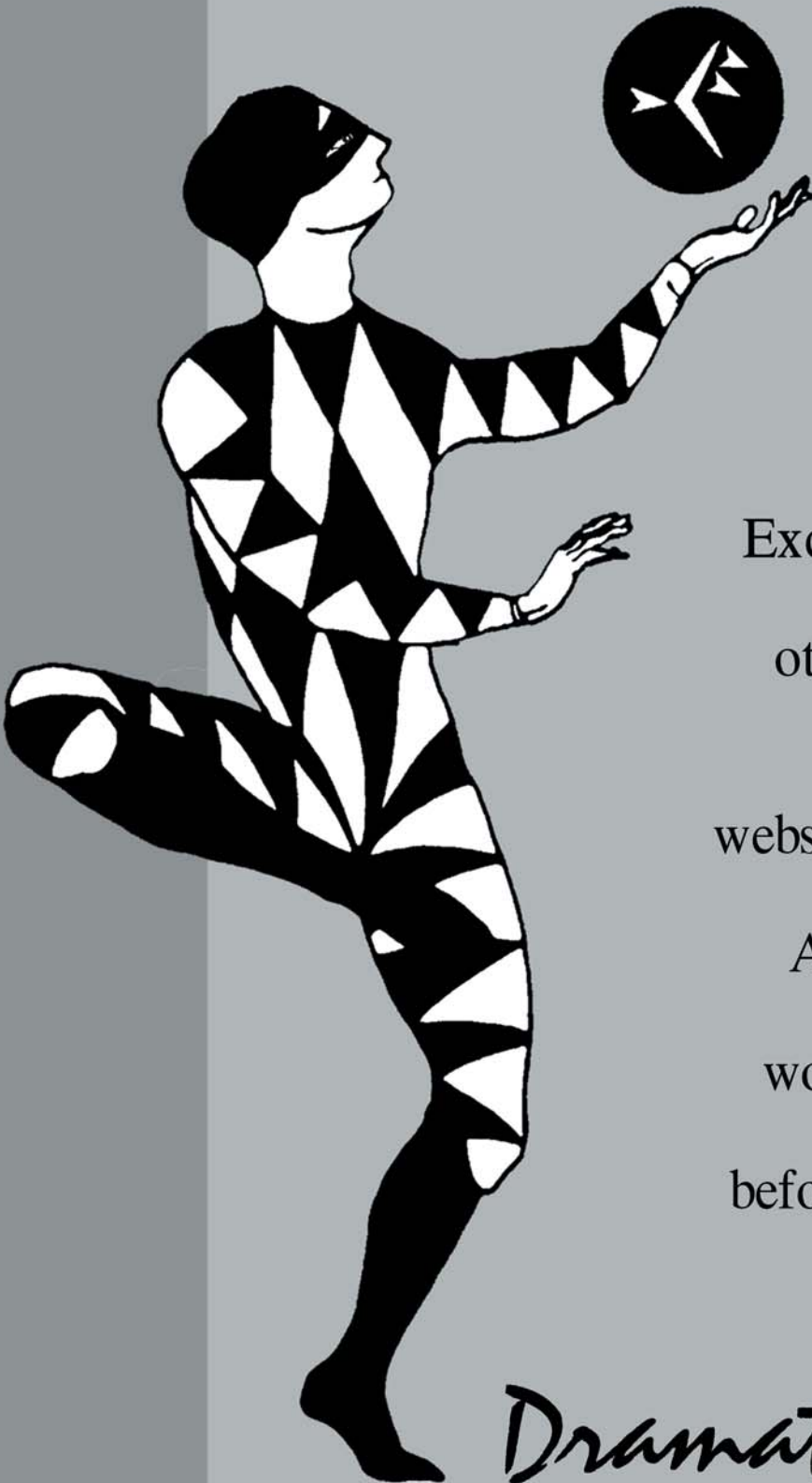
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Dramatic Publishing



An Entertainment for Women

by

CAMILLA RYE

Kids Will Be Kids



THE DRAMATIC PUBLISHING COMPANY

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(KIDS WILL BE KIDS)

Kids Will Be Kids

An Entertainment for Women

FOR ELEVEN WOMEN

CHARACTERS

THE ANNOUNCER.....	<i>of the program</i>
MISS JANE.....	<i>the teacher</i>
LULU	} <i>pupils</i>
VERNA	
MARY	
DOROTHY	
EDDIE	
KENNETH	
TRICKLE	
NANCY	
LOIS	

PLACE: *A schoolroom.*

TIME: *It doesn't matter. It may be a modern, or an old-fashioned, schoolroom.*

NOTE: All the parts are taken by women. The girls and boys wear funny clothes, and the girls may have pigtails. Trickle is a colored boy. Miss Jane is a "comic strip" type of teacher, a typical spinster with a long dress, nose glasses, and her hair done up in a knot on the top of her head. The "children" should be of all types: one is a giggler, another a "fresh" boy, the shy girl, etc. To add further to the fun of the skit, various bits of "business" may be added spontaneously by the pupils. They may pass notes back and forth to each other,

and try to whisper the answer to a question when a pupil is "stuck." The "fresh" boy pulls the pigtail of the girl in front of him. These and other typical actions will enhance the fun of the entertainment.

Kids Will Be Kids

SCENE: *A schoolroom. The setting is simple. There is a table or desk for the teacher at L stage, facing R stage. Behind it is a chair. On the desk are papers, a yardstick, books, school bell, etc. Chairs for the pupils are set in rows opposite the desk, facing the teacher. There is a piano at D L stage. In back of the teacher's desk may be a blackboard (optional).]*

BEFORE THE RISE OF CURTAIN: *The ANNOUNCER steps out in front of the curtain.]*

ANNOUNCER. Ladies and gentlemen—perhaps you've heard that recently there has been some unwarranted criticism of our local school system. Now, you know and I know that *nothing* could be so far from the truth. But—a number of mothers have complained that lack of proper discipline and lax teaching methods are responsible for the many unruly children in our fair city. This, I am sure, is a slight on our *loyal* teachers—and our *dear* children. So—this evening, I have invited a number of these complaining mothers here—that we may find out just how *they* would respond if they were in their children's places. In other words, these ladies are going to be children in the grade school. Among them are—Well, you may or may not recognize them. We'll see. And now it's time for school to begin.

[The ANNOUNCER hurries off the stage.]

AT RISE OF CURTAIN: *MISS JANE is standing in front of her desk, ringing the school bell, and the children, all except TRICKLE, rush in from R stage and scramble for their places. There is much noise, confusion, and pushing. All the children carry books. Some of them carry fruit, candy bars, etc.]*

JANE *[sharply, above the confusion].* Quiet! Quiet!

[*Instantly, there is silence.*]

JANE [*crossing behind her desk and sitting*]. You may answer the roll call——

[*TRICKLE enters R, carrying a large red apple.*]

TRICKLE. 'Lo!

JANE. Hm! Who are you?

TRICKLE [*grinning*]. It's my mother's li'l' boy, Trickle. I done brung you a nice red apple. [*He lays the apple on the desk.*]

JANE. Thank you, Trickle——My land! Whatever possessed them to name you Trickle?

TRICKLE. When I was born, I was jes' a li'l' drip. [*He grins.*]

JANE. All right, Trickle—take your seat.

[*TRICKLE sits.*]

JANE [*opening the roll book*]. And now, the roll call—Lulu.

LULU. Yes'm.

JANE. Verna.

VERNA. Yes.

JANE. Yes, what?

VERNA. Yes—I'm here.

JANE. Such insolence! Mary.

MARY. Present.

JANE. Dorothy.

DOROTHY [*yawning*]. Huh? Oh, yeah, I'm here.

JANE. Why don't you go to bed nights! Eddie.

EDDIE [*loudly*]. Here!

JANE. I'm not deaf.

EDDIE. But I am. [*He snickers.*]

[*The class laughs.*]

JANE. Quiet! Kenneth.

KENNETH [*rising*]. I couldn't get here, Teacher. I didn't get home yesterday yet. Dad went hunting after rabbits and got lost, and then Mom went hunting after Dad and she got lost,

and then I went hunting after Mom and I got lost. Then Dad got home and went hunting after me, and then Mom got home and went hunting after Dad, and then I got home — [*He starts toward the entrance at R stage.*]

JANE. All right! That's enough hunting for one day.

KENNETH. And none of us had a license, and so—Oh-oh! [*He starts toward his seat.*] I'm coming now, Teacher. [*He sits.*] Present.

JANE. Yes, but you came in late. I'll have to mark you tardy. Trickle.

TRICKLE. Dat's me, an' nobody else but.

JANE. Nancy.

NANCY [*starting to cry*]. I didn't wanna come—but Mom made me.

JANE. Stop that sniffing! Lois.

LOIS [*disgustedly, slouching in her seat*]. Okay! I'll be glad when I grow up and get married. Then I won't have to come to school.

JANE. You've got something there. I grew up and didn't get married and I'm still coming to school. [*She goes to the piano.*] We will now sing on page ten.

[*The children open their books, and JANE starts to play.*]

LULU. Wait!

[*JANE stops playing.*]

LULU. Page ten is gone out of my book.

JANE. All right. Just sing half of page twenty.

[*JANE plays, and the children sing a school song, which should be short and simple. JANE goes back to her desk.*]

JANE. Prepare for geography. [*She opens a book.*] Lulu, where is Cuba?

LULU. On page eight.

JANE. Now, Lulu, listen. When you stand on the southernmost

tip of Florida you have the United States on your right hand.
What have you on your left hand?

LULU. A wart.

[*The class laughs.*]

JANE. Quiet! Verna, who discovered Cuba? [*She notices that Verna is busily engaged in whispering to her neighbor.*]
Verna!

VERNA [*stopping quickly*]. Yes'm!

JANE. I'll do the talking here. Just answer my question. Who discovered Cuba?

VERNA. Ohio.

JANE. Ohio? No—it was Columbus.

VERNA [*impudently*]. I didn't know you wanted his first name.

JANE. Mary, what is Cuba noted for?

MARY. I've never been there—so it can't be me.

JANE. Hardly. What I mean is, what is found in Cuba?

MARY. Tobacco is found in Cuba—and in some cigars.

JANE. Dorothy, what is one of the principal rivers in Cuba?

DOROTHY. The River Cauto.

JANE. That's right. And which way does it run?

DOROTHY. Down.

JANE [*opening another book*]. And now, let us take a brief glimpse at our history lesson. [*She glances at EDDIE, who is eating a sandwich.*] Eddie—it's not recess yet. Put that food away and tell me what the former ruler of Russia was called?

EDDIE [*his mouth full*]. Sure. He was called Tsar.

JANE. That's pretty good.

EDDIE. Pretty good, me eye! That was perfect.

JANE. And what was the Tsar's wife called?

EDDIE. Tsarina.

JANE. Pretty—I mean—perfect. And what were the Tsar's children called?

EDDIE. Tsardines.

JANE. Can anybody tell me what Caesar said when Brutus stabbed him?