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## **Family Plays**

# **Two Dumb Dogs**

## **The Amazing Adventures of Ferdo and Floof**

by Edith Weiss

**Family Plays**

311 Washington St., Woodstock, IL 60098

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(TWO DUMB DOGS:  
THE AMAZING ADVENTURES OF FERDO AND FLOOF)

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Dedicated to Noris Weiss Malvey, my First Reader

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## ORIGINAL PRODUCTION

### **TWO DUMB DOGS The Amazing Adventures of Ferdo and Floof**

was originally commissioned and produced by The Backstage Theatre in Breckenridge, Colorado on July 4, 2008. Christopher Willard is the artistic director. The original production was directed by Michael Grittner.

#### **Original Cast:**

Christopher Willard	FLOOF
Skip Wee	FERDO
Dustin Murphy	PRINCE/ROGER
Melanie Ball	MISS BUNBURY/DOG SHOUTER
Genevieve Price	MILLIE/ODD
Susan Harrison	OWL/MIMI
Faith Rohrbacher	QUEEN MALEVELLA

#### **Original Production Crew:**

Christopher Willard	Sound/Lighting Design
Michael Grittner	Set Design
Mary Lorch	Costume Design

TWO DUMB DOGS had two successful productions following the premiere. The play opened September 5, 2009, and was toured throughout Maryland by Carroll Community College. William Gillett was the director. It was also produced by Colorado ACT, opening on August 21, 2009, and was directed by Cindy Troup.

Photography	Hillary Ranney-Howes
Conservatory Director	Jeffrey Draper
Conservatory Assistant	Alison Berka

Play Script Layout & Design: Randy Blevins, jrbdesign

## **PRODUCTION NOTES**

Roger's house may be indicated by a flat, or by simply exiting the stage. The Woods can be indicated by lights or a drop. The important set piece is the rock in which the Prince is. The Castle scene is in the 'keep' or entrance to the inside of the castle. This can be indicated using a doorway, a coat of arms, etc. The show tours well because the set can be kept to two flats or drops, and there is so little set dressing required.

Regarding costumes, the most specific pieces would be the Rock Prince's Rock - a costume that matches the rock would disguise him well - and the ham crown for the queen. Having Mimi look very ballerina-like is important. The Owl needs to turn his/her head all the way around, which is why it is usually a puppet, however it could be an actor in a costume with a detachable owl head that turns around. Other costumes are standard issue: modern everyday clothes for Roger and the neighbors, something militaristic looking for the Dog Shouter, dog costumes for the leads, and a luxurious gown for the Queen.

## **PROPERTIES LIST**

2 leashes  
doggie bag  
newspaper  
2 dog food bowls  
watering can  
poop scoop  
one shoe  
one very distressed shoe  
a ham  
a ham bone  
a tattered blanket  
presentation pillow  
two dog collars  
black magic wand  
holster or sheath for wand  
ham crown  
ribbon  
wooden spoon  
2 bits of food  
dirty sock  
colander, pots, pans for armor  
'Lost Dog' sign

## **SOUND EFFECTS**

Narrator voice over  
wolf howl  
percussive hip hop beat (optional)  
strains of romantic music (optional)  
thunder  
rain  
hunting horns  
pinging sounds of arrows hitting armor

## **CAST OF CHARACTERS**

NARRATOR\*: A voice over

FERDO: A big, goofy dog prone to emotion

FLOOF: A smaller, scrappy, smart-aleck dog

ROGER\*: A rather hapless dog owner

MISS BUNBURY: A neighbor, a proper young lady

MILLIE\*: A neighbor of a volatile nature

OWL\*: A wise old owl in the enchanted woods (usually a puppet)

ROCK PRINCE: A young Prince, brave, dashing, and unfortunately turned to stone

MIMI: The Queen's poodle, dressed in ballet garb, rather prissy, innocent, and easily cowed

QUEEN MALEVELLA: a.k.a. Queen of the Night, A very wicked queen with a really good vocabulary

ODD\*: The Queen's servant and cook, a very old man, hard of hearing

LEGENDARY DOG SHOUTER\*: Loud, enthusiastic, shouts for no reason

*\*Denotes characters that may be played as male or female*

### **DOUBLING FOR SIX ACTORS (3 M, 2 F, 1 EITHER)**

ACTOR 1: FERDO

ACTOR 2: FLOOF

ACTOR 3: ROGER/ LEGENDARY DOG SHOUTER/ROCK PRINCE

ACTOR 4: MISS BUNBURY/MIMI

ACTOR 5: MILLIE/QUEEN MALEVELLA

ACTOR 6: OWL/ODD

### **DOUBLING FOR SEVEN ACTORS (4 M, 2 F, 1 EITHER)**

ACTOR 1: FERDO

ACTOR 2: FLOOF

ACTOR 3: ROGER/LEGENDARY DOG SHOUTER

ACTOR 4: ROCK PRINCE

ACTOR 5: MISS BUNBURY/MIMI

ACTOR 6: MILLIE/QUEEN MALEVELLA

ACTOR 7: OWL/ODD



NARRATOR: So, as night fell...

*(Blackout)*

FLOOF: Oh, great.

FERDO: Now it's completely dark.

FLOOF: Come on! It's just the woods! What could be out there?

NARRATOR: And so, with only moonlight to show the way, our two dumb dogs took to the woods.

FLOOF: That guy is getting on my nerves.

OWL: Whooooo.

FLOOF: That guy. That loud voice. He's getting on my nerves.

OWL: Whooo.

FLOOF: Ferdo, I just told you— Ferdo?

FERDO: I didn't say anything. I was actually too scared to talk.

FLOOF: So who—

*(They turn. Lights up on Owl, who swings his head around and stares at them. They jump, yelp, hold each other in terror.)*

FLOOF: Who are you?

OWL: I'm an owl.

FERDO: You just turned your head all the way around. That is so cool!

OWL: What are you doing in these woods?

FLOOF: We're running away. We are adventurers!

OWL: Go home.

FERDO: Okay.

FLOOF: No! We are running away. We said we were gonna do it,

and we're gonna do it.

OWL: I'm telling you, it's a very bad idea. Wouldn't you rather be safe and sound, at home?

FERDO: Yes.

FLOOF: No.

OWL: I'm a wise old owl. You're two dumb dogs. Don't go deeper into the woods.

FERDO: Okay.

FLOOF: Ferdo, get back here. We will go wherever we want. We've had enough of people telling us what to do! Right, Ferdo?

FERDO: I guess.

FLOOF: Besides, we're in search of fame, fortune, and adventure!

OWL: Don't go tonight. There's a full moon rising tonight, which means the woods are enchanted tonight. They're full of wild things—things that scream, and howl, and wail in the night. Bad things can happen in an enchanted forest under a full moon. You don't want to go there.

FLOOF: You don't know what we want!

FERDO: Yes he does! I want to go home!

FLOOF: Are you a dog or a mouse?

OWL: Mmmmm. Mice. I eat mice. Yummy.

FERDO: I'm a dog!

FLOOF: Me too. Let's go!

OWL: I warned you.

*(A wolf howls; lights down on Owl.)*

FERDO: Something is howling! The owl is gone. The owl was right here, and now the owl is gone. I don't like this. Floof, are you

sure you know what you're doing? I want to go home.

FLOOF: Quit being a baby. We're dogs! Dogs are tough!

FERDO: I'm so hungry. Who's going to give us food? Huh? The answer is nobody. Nobody's going to give us food.

FLOOF: Come on, Ferdo, we gotta be tough.

FERDO: I don't know how to be tough! Roger always took care of me.

FLOOF: Walk like a tough dog! Look at me. See? There you go. That's good. We're tough.

FERDO: (*Throwing his blankie on a huge rock*) We're tough. I'm walking like a tough dog. Look at me go. Grrrrr.

(*To a hip hop beat*)

FLOOF: Walk like a tough dog. Talk like a rough dog. And never let 'em see you sweat.

FERDO: Get ready I'm announcin' this dog he will be pouncin' I'm demanding your respect.

FLOOF: Heck, we doin' some confessin' that with us you won't be messin' cause we're mean we're bad we're big.

FERDO: Dig?

FERDO & FLOOF: We're walking like we're tough dogs. We'll rough it cause we're sweatogs. And nothin' scares us, no.

FLOOF: Yo, if you see us you start running. We can smell ya; we are cunning.

FERDO: We got teeth and paws and tails,

FLOOF: Bro.

FERDO: We are dogs we're alpha males,

FLOOF: Yo.

FERDO: Ba – da- bow- ba- da- bow ba da bow wow wow. Ba da

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bow ba da bow ba da bow wow, bow wow.

FLOOF: With a bow to the wow with a bow to the wow with a bow to the wow with a bow wow, bow wow.

FERDO & FLOOF: Ba da wow wow wow Ba da wow wow wow Ba da wow wow, Bow wow!

*(They high five each other. As they do, they hear an almost indistinguishable, "HEEEELLLLLPPPPP." They freeze.)*

FERDO: What was that?

FLOOF: Stay rough. Stay tough.

*(A man's head and shoulders appear out of the rock, from under the blanket, camouflaged like the rock.)*

ROCK PRINCE: Heeeellllpppppp!

FERDO & FLOOF: Ahhhhh!

FERDO: It's a wild thing, screaming and howling and wailing in the night!

FLOOF: Ruuuunnnnnnn!

FERDO: My blankie!!!!

*(They run back for it, retrieve it, and are almost off when:)*

ROCK PRINCE: STTTTOOOOOPPPP.

FERDO: Why did you stop?

FLOOF: I don't know.

ROCK PRINCE: Come here.

FLOOF: It's a trick!

ROCK PRINCE: It's not a trick. Come here. Please.

FERDO: Floof, he understands what we're saying.

FLOOF: These woods must really be enchanted.

ROCK PRINCE: Well of course they're enchanted. How else do you explain a talking rock? Now please. Come here.

FERDO: He said please. Let's at least talk to it.

FLOOF: Okay. But don't get any closer.

FERDO: Hello. My name is Ferdo and this is my friend, Floof. We were just running away—

FLOOF: To seek fame and fortune.

ROCK PRINCE: That's all very interesting, but as you may or may not have noticed— I'm a man turned to stone, here.

FERDO: Yes, we did notice that, but we weren't going to say anything. You know, just trying to be polite and all.

ROCK PRINCE: The Queen of the Night did this to me. I would not marry her, so she turned me to stone and took my kingdom.

FLOOF: And we thought leashes were bad.

FERDO: Leashes are bad. They rub on my neck. Look, the hair is really thin here.

ROCK PRINCE: Could we focus on me for a minute? I'm imprisoned in a rock, and I could use a little help.

FERDO: How can we help you?

FLOOF: We're just two dumb dogs.

ROCK PRINCE: To break the spell, this boulder I'm trapped in has to be moved.

FERDO: It looks heavy.

ROCK PRINCE: It weighs two tons. No one has ever been able to move it. I've been here for over a year.

FERDO: A year? How long is that, a year? We're dogs, we have no sense of time.

ROCK PRINCE: It's a very long time. Now, could you help me?

FLOOF: We're going to try to help you. We're tough.

FERDO: We're rough.

FLOOF: We're ready to go. Come on, Ferdo. Let's push.

*(Both dogs position themselves in front of Rock Prince.)*

FERDO: PUSH!!!!

ROCK PRINCE: Not that way! The boulder would fall on me and crush me. Get behind me, and push from there.

FLOOF: Good thinking.

FERDO: Pretty smart, for a man made of stone.

*(They get behind and push, and push, to no avail.)*

F & F & ROCK PRINCE: One— two— three— PUUUUSSSSSHHHH.

ROCK PRINCE: It's no use. I'm imprisoned here forever. Which is a really long time.

FLOOF: There must be something we can do!

FERDO: I have an idea. What if we dug under the rock, and then if we pushed from the back, it might move forward into the hole we've made.

ROCK PRINCE: That might work. I had completely given up hope, but that might work.

FERDO: Let's go!

*(They dig under the front of the rock, then push from behind. The rock moves, and the man is free.)*

ROCK PRINCE: It worked! That was so smart!

FERDO: He said I was smart.

ROCK PRINCE: And you're kind, and helpful.

FLOOF: He said we were helpful.

FERDO & FLOOF: That's never happened.

ROCK PRINCE: I can't stay. I have to go, before Queen Malevella, the Queen of the Night, sees me resume my human form. I'll never forget what you did for me. Thank you.

*(He shakes Floof's paw.)*

FLOOF: Crushing my paw. Crushing my paw!

ROCK PRINCE: Sorry.

FERDO: (Rock Prince shakes his paw.) Owwwwwww.

ROCK PRINCE: Sorry. I'm still mostly stone. I don't know my own strength.

FERDO: Maybe could we go with you?

FLOOF: Yeah, could we?

ROCK PRINCE: I'm sorry, but I think you'd just slow me down. You have to find your own way.

FERDO & FLOOF: Good-bye!

*(Rock Prince stalks heavily and slowly off, like heavy stones hitting the ground. Sound effect and dogs giving little jumps might work here.)*

ROCK PRINCE: Uh. Uh. Uh.

FERDO & FLOOF: Good-bye! Take care. Bye bye now.

FERDO: That was an excellent adventure.

FLOOF: Yes, it was. We just saved him. We were helpful.

FERDO: And brave and smart. We are awesome!

NARRATOR: And so, our two dumb dogs—

FLOOF: Not that guy again. I forgot all about him.

FERDO: *(To voice of Narrator)* We are awesome, by the way.

NARRATOR: And so, our two awesomely dumb dogs had an

epiphany.

FLOOF: An epipha-wha?

NARRATOR: An epiphany. A sudden flash of truth. A profound insight.

FERDO: Oh.

*(They wait for it. Nothing happens.)*

FLOOF: Yeah, right.

*(Lights flash. Each has an epiphany.)*

FLOOF: Ferdo, you know what I was thinking? I was thinking, now that we're awesome, and helpful, maybe we should go back home. I want Roger to see how we've changed. What do you say?

FERDO: I was just thinking the same thing! Yes, yes, let's go home. I love home. I don't have to be tough at home— I can just be me. Ferdo.

FLOOF: Wait till Roger hears about our adventure—

*(Through the last line, a faint, female "Ow. Oh it hurts," has been heard.)*

FLOOF: Do you hear that?

MIMI: *(Peeping out, then hiding, louder)* Oh, woe to me and my poor self. The pain is too much! Ahhhhhhhh!

FERDO: Somebody else needs our help!

MIMI: Is there anyone in this oh-so-cruel world who would help me?

FLOOF: Where are you? We're over here!

FERDO: We'll help you! We are awesome! We'll find you!

*(Ferdo and Floof run in one direction. Mimi, a poodle who looks as much like a ballerina as a dog can look, drags herself onstage in the opposite direction, and then almost collapses.)*

MIMI: I'm over here— I—



FERDO: *(Catching her before she hits the ground)* I've got you!

MIMI: *(Looking at him with worshipping eyes)* Oh!

FERDO: Help me, Floof. Let's lay her down somewhere comfortable.

*(Both dogs are awkwardly carrying her. It ends up looking like a lopsided ballet.)*

FLOOF: Here's a good spot.

*(They almost put her down.)*

FERDO: The ground is wet over here. How about over there?

*(They almost put her down.)*

FERDO: Too many sharp rocks.

*(They almost put her down.)*

FERDO: Oh-oh. Is that poison ivy I see?

FLOOF: No, it isn't and let's put her down!

*(They put her down.)*

FERDO: Are you all right?

MIMI: Surely you are two of the most handsome heroes in the whole world.

FERDO: Well, I don't know about that—

MIMI: Look— I got a thistle in my paw. And it hurts so much.

FLOOF: A thistle? All that for a thistle? Why didn't you just pull it out?

FERDO: I'll pull it out.

*(He does.)*

MIMI: Oh! Ow. Thank you. You saved my life.

FERDO: Aw, it was nothing.

FLOOF: Yes, it was nothing. A thistle! I have seven thistles in my butt right now. Do you hear me complain?

FERDO: Be nice, Floof. Come on. Be friendly.

FLOOF: All right.

*(Ferdo & Floof move upstage of her to sniff her like dogs do.)*

MIMI: Hey-hey-hey-hey!

FLOOF: What?

MIMI: What are you doing back there?

FERDO: We're just trying to get to know you. Being friendly. It's what dogs do.

MIMI: Can't we rise above that? Why don't we just introduce ourselves?

FERDO: I'm Ferdo. This is Floof.

MIMI: And I'm Mimi Poodle. It's nice to make your acquaintance.

FERDO: What are you doing out here, in these dark enchanted woods?

MIMI: I live here with my owner. She's a..... fairy.

FLOOF: A real fairy? Like the tooth fairy or Tinkerbell? Like with wings and sparkles and everything?

MIMI: .....yes.

FERDO: Could she, by any stretch of unimaginable luck, be a ham fairy?

MIMI: A ham fairy? Really?

FERDO: Yes.

MIMI: Then..... yes. She's a ham fairy.

FERDO: Do you believe it, Floof? It's almost too good to be true!

MIMI: Would you like to meet her?

FLOOF: Ferdo, we were about to go home!

MIMI: She has food there.

FERDO: Food! Yes! We're starving! We can go home right after we eat!

MIMI: Follow me. *(Starts to exit)*

FLOOF: I have a bad feeling about this, Ferdo.

FERDO: She is the most beautiful thing I have ever set my eyes on! Did you see the way she looked at me? I think she loves me.

FLOOF: Oh, come on!

FERDO: And I love her, too!

FLOOF: We don't even know anything about her! She didn't even let us sniff her! That is suspicious behavior.

FERDO: Well you know how poodles are. All civilized and everything.

MIMI: Are you coming? 'Cause my owner will be worried about me. This way.

FERDO: Here we come! Come on, Floof!

*(They exit. The scene changes to interior castle. Odd, a bent over, ragamuffin old man, enters holding a pillow with two dog collars on it. Queen Malevella enters, with a black wand in a holster or sheath, and a ham strapped to her head.)*

ODD: Your Highness has a ham on her head.

MALEVELLA: Do you think there's any way I couldn't know that? There's a ham on my head. A particularly greasy and larded nine pound pork butt which is oozing that repulsive jellied ham fluid down the back of my neck as we speak, and you think you're telling me something new?

ODD: So you're aware of the ham.

MALEVELLA: I'm also aware of the fact that if I didn't need you to cook for me I'd squish you like the bug you are and smear you on the wall as a warning to whomever would cross my path.

ODD: What was that, Your Highness? My hearing isn't what it used to be.

MALEVELLA: I said I'd like for you to cook me some hot cross buns later.

ODD: Your wish is my command.

*(Mimi enters, calling off.)*

MIMI: Come on, this way. The ham fairy will be so glad to see you.

ODD: Oh I see. So you're the ham fairy now.

*(Floof and Ferdo, both wrapped in the blankie, enter.)*

FLOOF: You could have mentioned it was above the timberline. It is freezing up here!

MIMI: It's really warm inside.

*(Queen gets very sweet.)*

MALEVELLA: Mimi! I was so worried about you! Come in— did you bring some friends with you?

MIMI: Yes. This is Ferdo and Floof.

MALEVELLA: Oh, what nice dogs! Hello. Welcome to my castle.

FERDO: Hi. Are you the ham fairy?

MALEVELLA: Isn't it obvious?

FERDO: I knew it! I told you there was a ham fairy!

MALEVELLA: I had sent Mimi out to look for a poor man who I heard was stuck in a rock.

FERDO: Oh, we rescued him. We set him free!