

HB MICHAELS

Available plays

Youth Plays

Children of Hooverville

Drama. 45-55 minutes. 3 males, 10 females (with opportunity to add up to 7 additional non-speaking roles; 13-20 performers possible). Suitable for middle school or older.

Children of Hooverville is set in 1936. It follows the journey of 13-year-old Elsie Davis, who has just lost her older brother in a dust storm and the family farm to the bank. She is forced to set off with her little sister Charlotte, their father, and friends Donald, Shirley and Edna McGee on an old jalopy from Oklahoma along route 66 to San Joaquin Valley, California. On the road the children face many hardships but when they arrive to California, they come to realize it's not the promise land they had hoped for. Their struggles worsen as Charlotte is sick and there is no work to be found. Donald, trying to help fix the situation ends up making things worse. Elsie, having lost everything, wonders if it was all worth it in the end.

No Fear

Fantasy / One Act / Youth Play / Characters: 32 total. 14M / 8W / 10 any gender. (Can be played by 7 actors)

In a camp cabin several campers refuse to go to sleep. Wick, their counselor, tells them a tale that mashes several Grimm's Fairy together. The story unfolds in their cabin as Wick tells the story of Abay, a young boy (or girl) whose one wish is to feel fear.

Abay is ostracized from the other kids in the village because he is different. But when another boy is taken by a Dwarf (from Snow White's tale) Abay is the only one who can save him. Impressed by the Abays lack of fear, the dwarf agrees to set his friend free if Abay completes a mission.

The Dwarf sends Abay on a hero's journey through mountains and forest to find the Wicked Queen who cast the spell on the dwarf's friend (Snow White). Abay must cast a truth spell on the Queen to discover how to break the curse of the maiden who sleeps forever. Abay goes on this journey and along the way he meets a new friend, Falada the talking horse. Together they travel in and out of other famous tales such as Rapunzel, Hansel and Gretel, Rumpelstiltskin and many more to find the Wicked Queen.

(This play had a production at camp skylemar in 2011)

Full Length Plays

Bedpan Palace

Ensemble Comedy / Full Length / Characters: 6M / 4W

Bedpan Palace is an Ensemble Comedy that follows Rose, an elderly woman, who has been forced into an assisted living facility against her will. While continually plotting her escape, she befriends the other residents, starting a new chapter in what society normally deems the end of life. (Published wherever books are sold. It was first produced at the Brooklyn heights Player Theater, NY)

Spoiled Cherries

Comedy/ Full Length / Characters: 3M / 3W

At what age does childhood end? Twenty-six year old Sheila Kramer, a wannabe poet struggles with her refusal to grow up and her obsessive crush on her not-so-single best friend Alan. As those closest to her try to steer her in the right direction, she is forced to embark on a couch-hopping journey of self-discovery that ends up affecting those around her in unexpected ways.

Scraps

Historical Drama / Full Length / Characters: 2W / 4M

In 1948 three adult Jewish siblings have just inherited their father's failing junkyard. Having faced religious persecution in Ideal Town Georgia, the Siegel family is torn apart when they are only given a day to either sign the land over to a racist business owner or fight to keep it. Lucille, who has spent her life working on the yard with their father, does not want to let it go. However, Simon, the oldest brother, doesn't have the same attachment to the family business and wants the yard out of their lives so they can make a new start in Israel. Caught between his brother and sister Herman isn't sure who to side with, especially when his lover begins to push him in another direction.

(Scraps had a reading at Urban Stages/ Off Broadway and a reading at City University of London)

One Act and Shorter Plays

The Ferber Method

(Dramedy / 15 min / Characters: 1M / 1W)

Rick and Mandy are a young couple living in Brooklyn. They have a three-month-old baby who never sleeps. While attempting the Ferber Method the couple discuss their current situation and being parents in a new digital age.

Dirty Laundry On The Crazy Girls Line

Comedy / One Act / Characters: 2M / 2W

Crazy Girl explores her current predicament of being emotionally unbalanced and single. (Published in The Best Plays From The Strawberry One-Act Festival: Volume Four. Bought where ever books are sold)

Stranger Danger

(Comedy/ One Act / Characters: 2M / 1W)

Two young adults have been kept away from the world by their over barring protective mother. But one morning the world comes to them. STRANGER DANGER deals with man vs. their role in society. What injustice a parent can do by trying to over protect their child and the men who cannot separate their personal needs from their civic duty.