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62 Comedy Duet Scenes for Teens

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Play Review

Title: 62 Comedy Duet Scenes for Teens

Author: Laurie Allen

Reviewer: Rebeca Wallin

Publisher: Meriwether Publishing LTD.

Publication Year: 2012

ISBN: 9781566081863

Production Requirements: Minimal set and props, present day clothing

Estimated Run Time: 5-10 minutes for each scene

Number of Characters: 2

Cast Requirements: 2 male, or 2 female, or one male one female

Time Period: Present Day

Reading/Interest Level: Young Adult

Rating: Dependable

Review

Written specifically for secondary drama students, the book contains short two-person scenes for two women, two men, or one man and one woman. The scenes deal with subjects that high school students will relate to such as break-ups, clunker cars, homework woes, school projects, difficult teachers, and crushes. Most of the characters are high school age though some older characters are present and provide opportunities for stretching characterization. The familiar settings and minimal prop needs insure that they can easily be performed in a drama classroom.

Teenagers will be drawn to the wacky, ridiculous characters and opportunity to be larger than life. The scenes provide a good opportunity for objective and tactics study as many of the scenes involve at least one character pursuing their goal relentlessly. That being said – many of the scenes are without substance and depth and spend the entire scene rehashing one point. Use of this book could be tempting because of the ease of finding and assigning pre-cut scenes for a class; the value of students working on scenes from published plays should not be discounted, though, as they provide opportunity for script study to aid in character discovery.