



2017

Juliet's Ghost

Rebeca Wallin

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Play Review

Title: Juliet's Ghost

Anthology: AaBbCcDd

Author: Kenneth R. Preuss

Reviewer: Rebeca Wallin

Publisher: Contemporary Drama Service

Publication Year: 2004

Number of Pages: 39

Production Requirements: High School Stage

Estimated Run Time: 50 minutes, 30 minute version available

Number of Acts: 1

Number of Characters: 13

Cast Requirements: 6 Male, 7 Female

Time Period: contemporary

Reading/Interest Level: Intermediate, Young Adult

Rating: Excellent

Review

On Halloween night, a group of high school students sneak into their school theatre to borrow costumes for a party. As the dates decide on famous couples to dress up as, various romantic entanglements unfold. Amidst this excitement, the somewhat spooky Wendy appears with the story of a ghost that appears on the stage every Halloween night after dying before she had a chance to play Shakespeare's Juliet. After one failed attempt to make the ghost appear, a new student takes the challenge seriously and Kate (who left earlier,) appears to play the part of Juliet. When the real Kate shows up a few minutes later, everyone realizes that they have actually seen the real ghost.

A spooky ghost story with some real chills, revelations and surprise connections make this show perfect for teenage cast. All characters are age-appropriate and the author has a good feel for natural teenage banter. The innocent romance makes the show all the more appealing for the age group – audience and actors. Several of the main characters are strong and well-developed - though the supporting cast is mainly one-dimensional with a "mean girl", a "dumb guy", an "odd girl", etc. The minimal scenic and costume needs also make this play an ideal choice for an educational production. A thirty minute cutting of the script is also available.