

# ***A SKUNK'S TALE***

*by Barry Stewart Mann*

## **CAST OF CHARACTERS**

Saskia Skunk  
Terence Toad  
Brittnee Buzzard  
Destiny Deer  
Frederica Fox  
Beverly Bluebird  
Hector Hawk  
Sarah Snake  
Samantha Salamander  
Rina Raccoon  
Omar Opossum  
Mikayla Mouse  
Ms. Hooley the Owl  
Mr. Turban the Turtle

## **SCENES**

Scene 1: Introduction (Mr. Turban, Ms. Hooley, Mikayla)  
Scene 2: Lunchroom (All)  
Scene 3: Out In the Cold (Saskia, Brittnee, Terence)  
Scene 4: Playground - The Rumor Mill (All)  
Scene 5: Classroom (All)  
Scene 6: Counselor's Office (Mr. Turban, Saskia, Brittnee, Terence)  
Scene 7: You Don't Fit In (All)  
Scene 8: Small Group Imaginings (All)  
Scene 9: The Only One You Have To Be Afraid Of (All)  
Scene 10: Misunderstandings (All)

## **SONGS:**

"Out In the Cold"  
    "You Don't Fit In"  
        "The Only One You Have To Be Afraid Of"

## A SKUNK'S TALE

### Scene 1: INTRODUCTION

*[MR. TURBAN, THE TURTLE, comes plodding out slowly. As he speaks, MS. HOOLEY, THE OWL enters.]*

**MR. TURBAN**

*[Slowly, wisely.]*

A tale to tell. It was an ordinary day, in an ordinary school. A school not so very different from the one you went to, or maybe, for you young ones, the one you go to now.

**MS. HOOLEY**

Who knows what goes through the minds of children? I come to school everyday, and look into their sweet eyes. But they have secrets that we grown-ups will never understand.

**MR. TURBAN**

That's right, Ms. Hooley -- secrets.

*[A squeaky laugh is heard offstage. MIKAYLA MOUSE comes out. MR. TURBAN and MS. HOOLEY split the stage and move to the sides.]*

**MIKAYLA**

Secrets? I guess we have secrets. My secret is that I like to watch. I watch all the other kids. You see, going to school is hard. Being around so many kids. Everyone is so different. Especially if you're the new kid in the school.

*[MIKAYLA MOUSE moves upstage, pulls out a snack and munches on it. SASKIA SKUNK enters with a lunch tray. She takes a seat at a table, and begins to (mime) eating. Laughter and improvised conversation is heard offstage. SARAH SNAKE, HECTOR HAWK, FREDERICA FOX, DESTINY DEER, and BEVERLY BLUEBIRD come rushing in laughing; all have lunch trays, except SARAH. They come right to where SASKIA is sitting.]*

**Scene 2: LUNCHROOM**

**SARAH**

Excuse me, but, like, this is our table. We sit here everyday.

**SASKIA**

Oh, sorry. *[She gets up and moves to another seat.]*

**DESTINY**

*[Quietly mocking.]* Oh, sorry.

**HECTOR**

Who is that, anyway?

**FREDERICA**

She's new. She just moved here.

**HECTOR**

She's kind of strange-looking. That white stripe in her hair.

**SARAH**

You've got sharp eyes. She is strange. I think she's the one my friend was telling me about.

*[MR. TURBAN, THE TURTLE starts walking slowly across the room.]*

**FREDERICA, DESTINY & HECTOR**

What did your friend tell you?

**SARAH**

My friend goes to this other school. And she told me ...

**BEVERLY**

You guys, it's Mr. Turban. Hi, Mr. Turban.

*[SARAH SNAKE suddenly becomes quiet and angelic. MR. TURBAN THE TURTLE slowly moves past as they all greet him.]*

**DESTINY, FREDERICA, HECTOR & SARAH**

Hello, Mr. Turban.

**MR. TURBAN**

Hello, kids. Enjoy your lunch.

**SARAH**

Mr. Turban, I'm not eating today. I had a big meal just the other day.

**MR. TURBAN**

Good for you, Sarah.

*[He exits. BRITTNEE BUZZARD enters with a tray,  
and takes a seat.]*

**HECTOR**

Look, it's Brittnee. Hey, buzzard-breath.

*[The others laugh.]*

**BRITTNEE**

*[Resigned.]* That's not funny.

**HECTOR**

Are you looking at my lunch tray? Well, I'm not finished yet!

**BRITTNEE**

Why don't you just leave me alone?

**HECTOR**

You'd probably love it if we left you some of our lunch.

*[The others laugh. TERENCE TOAD enters with a lunch tray,  
taking a separate seat.]*

**DESTINY**

Look, it's my good friend Warty.

**TERENCE**

Hey, lay off, White-Tail.

**HECTOR, BEVERLY, SARAH & FREDERICA**

Oooooohhhh!

**DESTINY**

*[To SARAH.]* I don't care what he says. His words aren't poisonous. Anyway, Sarah, I want to hear what you were saying!

**SARAH**

About what?

**HECTOR**

Oh, yeah! About that new girl.