Emily M. Shaffer Dramaturg The Velveteen Rabbit

#### Glossary

# Pompous

- Page 1, "THE DOCTOR: from time to time, comically pompous."
- Affectedly and irritatingly grand, solemn, or self-important.

# Victorian

- Page 3, "A Victorian-style country house and garden."
- The Victorian Era is British history between 1820 and 1914. Named after Queen Victoria, because her reign was from 1837-1901 and is characterized by a class-based society.

#### Bureau

- Page 3, "There is a **bureau** L of the hallway door and a closet L of the **bureau**."
- A chest of drawers; a dresser.

## Hillocks

- Page 3, "There are hillocks and hidey-holes, bushes, and undergrowth..."
- A small hill or mound.

# **Scarlet Fever**

- Page 4, "Nana: Tommy and Mary and a lot of other children have scarlet fever."
- An illness caused by bacteria that results in bright red rashes over majority of the body, a sore throat, and a high fever. Often stems from strep throat but can develop on its own.

## Fortissimo

- Page 10, "As the roar reaches fortissimo, the lid flies open..."
- A term in music for very loud. Often used as a direction for how the music's score should be played,

#### Patchwork

- Page 11, "With, MOUSE's help, BULKA, a patchwork rag puppy..."
- The craft of sewing together many small pieces of cloth with different designs, colors, and textures.

## Frayed

- Page 11, "...rag puppy with multi-colored ears and a tail made of frayed bundles of..."
- Damaged, weakened, or worn down by strain or irritation.

## Sawdust

- Page 14, "MOUSE: Feels like he's stuffed with sawdust!"
- Powdery particles of wood produced by sawing.

# Papier-mâché

- Page 15, "I'm made of the best papier-mâché and covered..."
- A mixture of paper and glue that becomes hard when dry.

#### Resolute

- Page 17, "MOUSE (marching resolutely toward the bed)
- Firm determination.

# Velveteen

- Page 19, "...nobody else in the toy box is made of velveteen."
- A cotton fabric that resembles velvet but is not velvet.

# Astride

- Page 23, "He is astride the Skin Horse."
- With one leg on each side, riding a horse.

## Deteriorate

- Page 27, "The CREATURE begins another roar, but it deteriorates rather..."
- To become impaired in quality, functioning or condition.

# Knickknacks

- Page 27, "...and a variety of kitchen knickknacks topped off with..."
- A small item intended to be an ornament but used for decoration.

# Sneer

- Page 28, "MOUSE: He's just so...(Searches for a word, finds it, sneers.)...different."
- To smile or laugh with facial contortions that express scorn or contempt.

#### Windchimes

- Page 30, "There is a sudden breeze, the sound of windchimes, and the echoing..."
- A cluster of small often sculptured pieces of metal or glass suspended to make noise when blown by wind.

# Pulsate

- Page 34, "The closet interior glows and pulsates with red light..."
- To throb or move rhythmically.

# Obscured

- Page 44, "He is **obscured** by great piled of quilts..."
- To conceal or hide by as if by covering.

# **Spectacles**

- Page 44, "The DOCTOR wears **spectacles**, a frock coat, a high silk hat..."
- A device used to correct vision.

# **Frock Coat**

- Page 44, "The DOCTOR wears spectacles, a frock coat, a high silk hat..."
- A knee-length double-breasted coat.

# Crabcake

- Page 48, "DOCTOR: Crabcake?"
- A patty of flaked crab meat typically served fried with tomato sauce.

#### Abrupt

- Page 61, "RABBIT 2: Let's get out of here. (*They start an exit R, then stop abruptly*.)
- Action or change without preparation or warning; sudden and unexpected.

## Deliberate

- Page 62, "(She turns toward the hillock and then very **deliberately** crosses to it, moves around behind it.)"
- To think about carefully.

# Ominous

- Page 69, "There is an **ominous** growling and burbling sound."
- Foreshadowing evil. Synonyms: Sinister, ill, threatening.

# Alcove

- Page 71, "The U window alcove comes to life with..."
- A small section of a room.

### Sheer

- Page 71, "TOY FAIRY appears behind the sheer curtains..."
- A very thin or transparent texture.

## Vapor

- Page 74, "A thick red vapor pours down the walls, pooling on the floor."
- A diffused matter, such as smoke or fog, suspended floating in the air.

# Dissipate

- Page 74, "The red vapor thins and begins to dissipate."
- To spread thin and gradually vanish.

# Burlap

- Page 75, "DOCTOR enters from the hallway, carrying a large **burlap** sack with a drawstring."
- A heavy plain-woven fabric usually of hemp used for bagging and wrapping.

# Raggedy

- Page 76, "DOCTOR: And we must throw that **raggedy** little rabbit away, too!"
- Messy, torn, looking a little dirty.

# Gladstone

- Page 78, "Even your big **gladstone** bag!"
- A suitcase with flexible sides on a rigid frame that opens flat into two equal compartments.