

Monologues

6 and under

Option #1: THE NUTMEG PRINCESS by Richardo Keens-Douglas

AGLO Hi, Petal, I got something to tell yuh. Sorry to be late, but I was talking to Petite Mama. You know what Petite Mama said about the Princess? She said that the Princess' head is covered with hundreds of tiny braids, and at the end of each braid hangs a dew drop that looks like a diamond. And when she appears, Petal, she would sing a song, sad or happy, and in the blinking of an eye, she would disappear. (clicks finger) Just like that.

Option #2: THE FORBIDDEN PHOENIX by Marty Chan

LADSAN You're the Monkey King. You can crack trees with the snap of a finger. No one can hurt me while you're around.

Oh, wait! I have an even better idea. Ba Ba. Let's all go to the West together. Bring the people, too. We'll live there and you can stay and protect us. Please don't get mad, but I don't like this place anymore. The stream is dry and the fish are gone. I don't think we'll ever be able to grow anything but dust because the rain clouds have run away for good. Everybody's grumpy because there's no food, and you keep going away to get us something to eat, and each time you come back with less.

Ma Ma said a place is where you live, but a home is where your heart lives.

My heart's with you.

7-9 year olds

Option #1 WHERE HAS TOMMY FLOWERS GONE? by Terrence McNally

(This humorous monologue is delivered by an English sheepdog).

ARNOLD I didn't always have Tommy Flowers and I'm not at all sure I always will. I got him when I was given back to him by a friend of his who didn't want me after Tommy had given me to him in the first place.

It's complicated, I know. This friend was a very lonely sort of person and Tommy decided that he should have a dog. Only he didn't want a dog. But when he saw me something inside of him must have snapped because his eyes kind of filled up like he was going to cry and he held me very close. I was this big then! And he didn't say anything and he walked a few feet away from everyone and stood with his back to them and just held me like a little baby.

No one had to ask if he wanted me. You could just tell. I was so happy.

Option #2 LITTLE RED, THE HOOD by Peg Kehret

WOLF Just because I'm a wolf, everyone assumes I'm the bad guy. People say, "Poor Little Red Riding Hood. Poor old Granny."

Ha! If the truth were known, Little Red and Granny would be arrested for fraud, perjury and intent to deceive a police officer. Those two women are real con artists, but Little Red's cute and can scream hysterically, so everyone believed her version of what happened. Well, I think it's time the real story got told.

Now, I live in the woods, you understand. These are my woods – well, mine and the bank's. The point is, the woods are my home and Little Red was trespassing. Naturally, when I saw her running across my property, I stopped her and asked what she was doing.

You probably think she told me she was on her way to visit her sick grandmother. Wrong. She told me the most incredible thing had just happened.

10-12 year olds

Option #1 CHARLOTTE'S WEB by E. B. White

CHARLOTTE Good night, Wilbur. Good night. What to do. I promised to save his life, and I am determined to keep that promise. But how? Wait a minute. The way to save Wilbur is to play a trick on Zuckerman. If I can fool a bug, I can surely fool a man. People are not as smart as bugs. Of course. This will not be easy, but it must be done. First, I tear a section out of the web and leave an open space in the middle. Now, I shall weave new threads to take the place of the ones I removed. Swing spinnerets. Let out the thread. The longer it gets, the better it's read. Attach. Pay out line. Descend. Complete the curve. Easy now. That's it. Back up. Take your time. Now tie it off. Good. The message is spun. I've come to the end. The job that I've done is all for my friend. Some pig. Not bad, for the first time around. But it was quite exhausting. I'd better catch a little nap before daybreak.

Option #2 FENCES by August Wilson

CORY You don't count around here anymore. Now why don't you just get out my way? You talking about what you did for me... what'd you ever give me? You ain't never gave me nothing. You ain't never done nothing but hold me back. Afraid I was gonna be better than you. All you ever did was try and make me scared of you.

I used to tremble every time you called my name. Every time I heard your footsteps in the house. Wondering all the time...what's Papa gonna say if I do this?...What's he gonna say if I do that?...What's he gonna say if I turn on the radio? And Mama, too...she tries...but she's scared of you. I don't know how she stand you...after what you did to her.

Come on! Come on, put me out. What's the matter? You so bad...put me out! Come on! Come on!

Option #3 MY GIRL

VADA(to camera)I was born jaundiced. Once I sat on a toilet seat at a Truck stop and caught hemorrhoids. And i've learned to live with this chicken bone that's been lodged in my throat for the past three years, so I knew Dad would be devastated when he learned of my latest affliction.

(to Harry) Dad, I don't wanna upset you, but my left breast is developing at a significantly faster rate than my right. It can only mean one thing. Cancer. I'm dying.

Option #4 A LITTLE PRINCESS written by Richard LaGravenese & Elizabeth Chandler

SARA: I don't have a mother either... she's in heaven with my baby sister... But that doesn't mean I can't talk to her, I talk to her all the time... I tell her everything and I know she hears me because... because that's what angels do. My mom is an angel and yours is too. With beautiful satin wings, a silk dress, and a crown of baby rosebuds, and they all live together in a castle. And do you know what it's made out of? Sunflowers. Hundreds of them, so bright they shine like the sun. And when they want to go anywhere they just whistle, like this...(whistles) and a cloud swoops down to the front gate and picks them up and as they ride through the air, over the moon and through the stars... until they are hovering right above us, that's how they can look down and make sure we're all right. And sometimes they even send messages. Of course you can't hear them with all the noise you were making... but don't worry they'll always try again... just in case you missed them.

13-15 year olds

Option #1 BANANA BOYS by Leon Aureus and Terry Watada

SHEL (he anxiously awaits contact from a girl for whom he has fallen. When the monologue begins, he is staring at his cell phone.)

Okay, cell phone, me and you need to talk. We've been through a lot together. The last 6 months here have been ...marginal. I've given your number to a few people, and so far, no one calls you but The Boys back home. I almost had you disconnected. (pause) Don't look at me like that; I didn't go through with it. And do you know why? Because the day we stopped looking ... was the day we met Her. I went twenty minutes out of my way, in minus-thirty-degree weather, to walk Her home, breaking the ice in front of Her with my CSA approved boots so She wouldn't slip and fall. She's wonderful. (He beams.) I gave Her your number, and She said She'd call. So ... cell phone, if ever you were going to ring, if ever you were going to make that special connection...let it be now. You're fully charged. So...*ring* (It doesn't ring.) C'mon. Please? (nothing) She's really special...and. ... I'm prattling, but ... the way She - *the phone rings* - Hello? (pause) Kathy! Hi! (pause) No, I'm not busy, just ... waiting... for you. (pause) Really? Well, I think you're sweet too...

Option #2 Our Town by Thornton Wilder

GEORGE Emily, I'm glad you spoke to me about that...that fault in my character. What you said was right; but there was one thing wrong with it, and that was when you said that for a year I wasn't noticing people, and ...you, for instance. Why, you say you were watching me when I did everything...I was doing the same about you all the time.

(She looks at him wide-eyed, he at her).

Why, sure, - I always thought about you as one of the chief people I thought about. I always made sure where you were sitting on the bleachers, and who you were with, and for three days

now I've been trying to walk home with you; but something's always got in the way. Yesterday I was standing over against the wall waiting for you, and you walked home with Miss Corcoran. Listen, Emily, I'm going to tell you why I'm not going to Agriculture School. I think that once you've found a person that you're very fond of...I mean a person who's fond of you, too, and likes you enough to be interested in your character...Well, I think that's just as important as college is, and even more so. That's what I think.

Option #3 Our Town by Thornton Wilder

EMILY (In a loud voice to the Stage Manager)

I can't. I can't go on. It goes so fast. We don't have time to look at one another. (She breaks down sobbing).

(The lights dim on the left half of the stage. Mrs. Webb disappears.)

I didn't realize. So all that was going on and we never noticed. Take me back - up the hill - to my grave. But first: Wait! One more look. Good-by,.. Good-by, world. Good-by, Grover's Corners...Mama and Papa. Good-by to clocks ticking...and Mama's sunflowers. And food and coffee. And new-ironed dresses and hot baths...and sleeping and waking up. Oh, earth, you're too wonderful for anybody to realize you.

(She looks towards the Stage Manager and asks abruptly, through her tears:)

Do any human beings ever realize life while they live it? - every, every minute?

Option #4 THE BAD SEED

EMMA He was gonna tell on me that I took his medal. I didn't mean to hurt him. When I pushed him... he fell. He kept on yelling, yelling that he couldn't swim, but I didn't believe him, he always over-exaggerated. And after a while he stopped yelling and I couldn't see him anymore. I'm so sorry, daddy, I didn't want to get into trouble. I won't do it again.

And Mrs. Levia, She should have never grabbed my arm, so I kicked her, and she fell down the stairs. I didn't do anything wrong, she's the adult. She should have protected herself better.

They're gonna take me and they're gonna put me in the little chair, the little pink electric chair.

I really don't wanna go there, I don't wanna pee myself. Chloe said she knew about Milo and one day everyone would. She said that they were gonna take me to this little electric chair that they put kids in. She told me she was gonna be my stepmother. I don't want a stepmother! Ever! She stole pills from your room. I watched. She fooled you. You weren't gonna do anything about it. Not one thing! So I did. Someone had to.

16 years +

Option #1 THE OUTSIDERS

PONYBOY. I wish I looked like Paul Newman. He looks tough and I don't. The other thing-it's a long walk home with no company. But I usually lone it anyway. I like to watch movies undisturbed so I can get into them and live them with the actors. I'm different that way. I mean my second oldest brother, Soda, never cracks a book at all, and my oldest brother, Darry, works too hard to be interested in a story or drawing a picture-so I'm not like them. And nobody in our gang digs movies and books the way I do. So I lone it.

Option #2 A BRIGHT NEW BOISE by Samuel D. Hunter

ALEX That's your plan, not mine. And even if I do that, go to school and major in music, then what? You think I'm gonna, like, be the next big thing? Okay, so I make a few albums, do some performances, probably wind up teaching, and that's like the best case scenario. I'll probably just fail completely, come back to Boise, and end up working at this stupid Hobby Lobby—working at this damn store, for the rest of my life. And what's the alternative? Believing in what my dad believes in, believing in some magical guy up in the clouds who created us for fun I guess, a guy who is going to come pretty soon to kill us all. These are my two options in life, and they are freaking meaningless.

Option #3 FENCES by August Wilson

CORY I live here too! I ain't scared of you. I was walking by you to go into the house cause you sitting on the steps drunk, singing to yourself. I ain't got to say excuse me to you. You don't count around here any more. Now why don't you just get out my way. You talking about what you did for me... What'd you ever give me? You ain't never gave me nothing. You ain't never done nothing but hold me back. Afraid I was gonna be better than you. All you ever did was try and make me scared of you. I used to tremble every time you called my name. Every time I heard your footsteps in the house. Wondering all the time... what's Papa gonna say if I do this? What's he gonna say if I do that? What's he gonna say if I turn on the radio? And Mama, too...she tries...but she's scared of you. I don't know how she stand you...after what you did to her. What you gonna do...give me a whupping? You can't whup me no more. You're too old. You're just an old man. You crazy. You know that? You just a crazy old man...talking about I got the devil in me. Come on...put me out. I ain't scare of you. Come on! Come on, put me out. What's the matter? You so bad... Put me out! Come on! Come on!

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Option #5 THE LARAMIE PROJECT

I pull up to the corner, to see who Matthew Shepard, you know. It's a little guy, about five-two, soakin' wet, I betcha ninety-seven pounds tops. They say he weighed a hundred and ten, but I wouldn't believe it. They also said he was five-five in the newspapers, but this man, he was really only about five-two, maybe five-one. So he walks up the window--I'm gonna try and go in steps so you can better understand the principle of this man. So he walks up to the window, and I say, "Are you Matthew Shepard?" And he says, "Yeah, I'm Matthew Shepard. But I don't want you to call me Matthew or Mr. Shepherd. I don't want you to call me anything. My name is Matt. And I want you to know, I am gay and we're going to go to a gay bar. Do you have a problem with that?" And I said, "How're you payin'?" The fact is . . . Laramie doesn't have any gay bars . . . and for that matter neither does the state of Wyoming . . . so he was hiring me to take him to Fort Collins, Colorado, about an hour away. Matt was a blunt little shit, you what I'm sayin'?--he always was. But I liked him 'cause he was straightforward, you see what I'm saying? Maybe gay but straightforward, you see what I'm saying?