

2021 Playhouse Performing Arts Academy Monologues (12+)

CHRISTMAS AT PEMBERLY by Lauren Gunderson

Anne DE BOURGH | Female, Age Range: 20-30

ANNE: Arthur, we must leave immediately. I am ready to be away from this place and these people! We have an estate to run. We have a wedding to plan. Arthur. Come. Arthur. Oh, of course you love me. And I you. Since we were children. Now can we please - you require a wife and I a husband. Everyone marries without happiness. You might not have to, but I do. I have to marry you, or I lose everything, Arthur, don't you see? Rosings has always been my home, and it was mother's wish for my future, and what will happen to me if I have nothing? I will be nothing, I will be lost, and I will not be ignored or slighted or thrown aside any longer. For pity's sake, the kind of love you speak of is fiction. It is the stuff of novels and operas ... the ones where everyone dies in the end.

IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE by Clark Genser

Ma Bailey | Female, Age Range: 40-60

How do you like the new sister-in-law? Looks like she'll keep Harry on his toes. George, um... Do you know that Mary Hatch is back from school? Nice girl, Mary. Stop grumbling! Give me one good reason you shouldn't call Mary. She's not crazy about Sam Wainwright. And besides, Sam is away in New York, and you're here in Bedford. All's fair in love and war, George. I don't know about war but I know about love. What's that, George? Instead of seeing Mary you're thinking of going to the library? The library? Oh, George, George, George! You go and see Mary, you hear?

LEADING LADIES by Ken Ludwig

Aunt Florence | Female, Age Range: Elderly

(All sweetness.) Don't be ridiculous. I have two little nieces to meet. Where are they? *(rough and angry)* WHERE ARE THEY?! *(seeing them and crying.)* ... They're so beautiful! Maxine, my darling, it's really you! And Stephanie – oh the sweet baby!! *(to Doc - angry)* Oh be quiet, murderer. No! I should not be in bed - you said I was dead. I could have been buried alive. I don't make mistakes like that. Stock tips? That's different! They don't kill people! I don't care if they all went straight down the toilet! IT'S NOT THE SAME THING! *(And with that, AUNT FLORENCE grabs her chest and starts to gasp.)*

YOU'RE A GOOD MAN CHARLIE BROWN by Clark Genser

Schroeder | Male, Age Range: Kids - 20's

I'm sorry to have to say it to your face, Lucy, but it's true. You're a very crabby person. I know your crabbiness has probably become so natural to you now that you're not even aware when you're being crabby, but it's true just the same. You're a very crabby person and you're crabby to just about everyone you meet. Now I hope you don't mind my saying this, Lucy, and I hope you're take it in the spirit that it's meant. I think we should be very open to any opportunity to learn more about ourselves. I think Socrates was very right when he said that one of the first rules for anyone in life is 'Know Thyself'. Well, I guess I've said about enough. I hope I haven't offended you or anything. *(awkward exit)*

THE GAME's AFOOT by Ken Ludwig

William Gillette | Male, Age Range: 30-50s

(In response to Aggie's line: "You treat everything as a joke! Even that horrible attempt on your life!")

Look, we have chosen this mad life of ours, and we'd be insane not to accept it for what it is. We're actors. We wear silly costumes. We put on noses made of putty for God's sake. I don't treat life as a joke- I treat it as the most glorious game ever invented. Love and heartbreak? Game. Life and death? The greatest game, the biggest adventure. Shakespeare got it right on the nose. Henry the Fifth charging into battle against overwhelming odds and what does he cry? "It's all a game and if I die, I die!" So let them praise me, hate me or shoot me – but at the end of the battle, I will have lived, even for a moment. And if you think you need Simon in order to live like that, then take him, by all means! Cling to him! Don't hesitate for a second!...I will, however, miss you unutterably. *(change into Sherlock Holmes voice here)* As they say love, the crime must go on.

PETER AND THE STARCATCHER by Rick Elice

Stache | Male, Age Range: 40-50s

STACHE:

I'm a romantic! There's a poet in these pirate veins, and so I plug into the muse. (holds his hand out to Smee for a manicure) But what to do? Which style to use? Iambic? Box office poison. Haiku? Over my dead granny. (suddenly vicious to Smee) Mind the cuticle, Smee! (Eureka!) Hoopah! Got it! (a steely glare at Aster) A pirate with scads of panache Wants the key to the trunk with the cash. Now, here's some advice: Tho' I seem to be nice – I'LL CUT YOU!!! Slit you up one side 'n' down the other so ye can watch yer own stomach flop around on the deck. (Aster doesn't flinch) I say, Smee- you did explain to my lord that I'm a bloodthirsty outlaw?