

KATIE BETH'S BIRTHDAY

3 ACTOR SCENE FOR FESTIVALS AND COMPETITIONS

RUNTIME: 4:30

from

RALPH TO THE RESCUE

written by

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Faith Based Student Musicals

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THEME

TRUE FRIENDSHIP

"Some friends may ruin you, but a real friend will be more loyal than a brother." Prov. 18:24

SYNOPSIS

Not-so-athletic Ralph wants to impress Pageant Girl, Katie Beth. Laura helps him understand that his thinking might be misguided. Broad, "Peanuts" style characters.

CAST

RALPH(M) 3-8th Grade. Kind, vulnerable, not an athlete.

KATIE BETH(F) 3-8th Grade. Pageant girl, spoiled, oblivious.

LAURA(F) 3-8th Grade. Thoughtful, old soul, unassuming, confident.

At rise, RALPH and LAURA are in the school gym in P.E. class. RALPH is awkwardly poised to catch the basketball LAURA will toss as she enters. His catch position is all wrong.

LAURA

Here Ralph, shoot it!

LAURA throws ball, real or imagined.

Ball smacks RALPH.

RALPH stumbles and tumbles.

RALPH recovers, scratching his head.

RALPH

Bummer! I thought I was ready for that one.

RALPH looks around.

Good! Katie Beth wasn't watching. I don't want her to think I'm a Sport Dork. What I really need her to see is how well I **bowl**. I **love** bowling. I like to refer to it as, "The sport with no court." That's a little tag line I've coined and plan to make a fortune on someday, after I retire from the big leagues.

(with swagger)

Those pins are my minions, the gutter, my battlefield, the alley, my **domain!**

RALPH slips into dream mode while LAURA does comic takes.

Someday, when I'm a professional bowler, Katie Beth will see me on TV and think, "How did I manage to let that kid slip past me? I know he was always trying to get my attention, always trying to impress me. But I totally ignored him. I could be on his tour bus right now, entering the bowling arena with thousands cheering, wearing the team jacket, with "Ralph" splashed across the back.

LAURA

(breaks his spell)

OK, Ralph. This is getting out of hand.

KATIE BETH enters, addressing RALPH and STUDENTS (other STUDENTS are imagined.)

KATIE BETH

Attention everyone!! Attention!

RALPH

(gasps nervously)

It's Katie Beth! Make way.

RALPH (CONT'D)

(gaining confidence and volume)

Make way, everyone! Make way!

KATIE BETH

(to Ralph)

Could you move? I need to stand there.

RALPH looks around to see that the entire stage is available for Katie Beth. Still, he bows back, submissively.

KATIE BETH (CONT'D)

Atten...good, you're all quiet. As you're probably all remember, my Birthday is coming soon, and that means it's almost time for my super fabulous annual birthday commemoration. It's June 15th, right after school lets out. That gives everyone plenty of notice to look at my gift registry.

But now for the most **stressful** part of the planning: Where to have it? I mean, of course my parents said any of our properties will be fine and that they would spare no expense. But that almost makes it harder, you know? No budget limits? No boundaries?

So, I've decided to let you all **vote** on which of our properties will have the honor. Wherever we land, it will be so exciting for the regular people who work there – whatever they do. So, show of hands...all in favor of our Palms Resort?

RALPH raises hand.

Heliport?

RALPH raises hand.

Horsepark?

RALPH raises hand.

Last resort...our bowling alley?

RALPH does delirious gyrations.

KATIE BETH ignores him.

KATIE BETH

Nevermind, I will decide. I think I'll choose our Celebrities Only Golf and Athletic Resort. We'll join them on the courts for a **basketball** tournament. I just love to see powerful people **sweat!**

Katie Beth passes out invitations.

RALPH

(to Laura)

WHAT?!? All of those fancy places, and we're going to a gym? For **basketball**?!? I'm doomed!!

KATIE BETH

KATIE BETH hands invitations to Laura, then Ralph.

Here ya go. This lame-o school makes me invite the whole class.

KATIE BETH exits.

RALPH'S eyes follow her longingly, clutching invitation to his heart.

RALPH

She spoke to me! She opened her mouth and said words to me personally.

LAURA

Ralph, catch!

LAURA throws basketball to Ralph. It smacks him, breaking the spell.

RALPH

Oh Laura, you know I can't catch, even if I was conscious. A basketball party... what am I gonna do?

LAURA

(hesitantly)

Maybe I can help?

RALPH

You? What can you do?

LAURA

Well, I'm not great at basketball, but I'm pretty sure I'm better than y...I mean...maybe I can help...if you want me to.

RALPH is staring off at Katie Beth's exit.

RALPH

(unenthused)

Sure. I guess.

LAURA

First, you have to agree to practice every day.

RALPH is still staring off Katie Beth's exit.

LAURA

Hey! Eyes this way!

RALPH

OK, OK.

LAURA conducts basketball drills throughout.

LAURA

We'll start with dribbling, nice and slow.

LAURA dribbles while RALPH awkwardly tries to emulate.

LAURA musters courage.

LAURA (CONT'D)

Speaking of nice. You know who's not nice? Katie Beth...sometimes.

RALPH

(defensively)

Whoa! Laura!

LAURA

Now try some catching.

Beat for catching drills.

If **you** think she's nice, that's your call.

RALPH

I think she's beauti – nice. She's beautifully nice.

LAURA

I guess I just see it a little different than you. I just don't like the way she treats you.

RALPH

What do you mean?

LAURA

She's not really nice to you, Ralph. Or anybody. I'm sorry, but it's true. Everybody can see it.

RALPH

(lightbulb)

Everybody but me, huh?

LAURA

I don't know. I try not to talk about people. But probably.

RALPH

Wow! I never saw it that way.

LAURA

I'm sorry to be the one to tell you...to hurt you like that. I don't ever want to hurt you, Ralph.

RALPH

You care about not hurting me, Laura?

RALPH

(increasingly beaming)

That's the nicest thing anyone has ever said to me...except when Mrs. Rosencrantz said I was the best bathroom monitor in the whole first grade.

LAURA

Whoa, slow down there partner. I don't wanna hurt you, or **anybody**. We can be friends – but just in a friend way. No notes, texts, calls, staring...Got it?

RALPH

(understands)

Yeah, I got it. Don't worry, I'll be too busy bowling.

RALPH looks up to gesture, "Thanks, God."