

**Tillie** And you would think about us.

**Elsie** We're all stuck together, even when we're apart. Love sticks things together. It's really strong. It's so strong that the things it holds together won't ever come apart. You don't need us to stick to you. We're already stuck. Everybody's stuck to everybody else. That's life. That's what it is. We don't have any choice.

**Tillie** We're-stuck with each other. Even when we're not stuck *to* each other.

**Suzie** Really?

**Elsie** Really. We'll always be together. As together as we are in this room right now.

*(Suzie takes off her socks and puts them on the floor.)*

**Narrator** Suzie looked around the room. Outside, the sun was climbing in the sky, and sunlight was streaming through the window. It was shining on Elsie's face, and on Tillie's face, and on Bop's face. Everyone was smiling, even Bop. They all just sat on the floor and looked at each other and smiled. In the middle of the room was the pair of wool socks, just lying there, the socks that Suzie loved so much, and she figured that if those socks had mouths they'd be smiling too.

**Bop** Woof!

*(Lights fade to black.)*

## TO BEE OR NOT TO BEE

BY SUSAN KIM

(FOR YOLANDA MOLDONADO, AGE 14)

In this short comedy, a bee disguises herself as a chipmunk in a daring attempt to survive one of the world's most famous floods—and succeeds! Like the short play *Scientist Meets Fish* (see page 161 for details), *To Bee or Not to Bee* was written as part of The 52nd Street Project's One-on-One program, this time for fourteen year-old Yolanda Moldonado.

1 Girl and 1 "Bee"

Ms. Noah and Bee (any age)

*Ms. Noah, wearing a raincoat and a headset, stands by her husband's ark, holding a clipboard and pencil. She is a no-nonsense type and at the moment, looks really hassled.*

**Ms. Noah** Last call for all animals boarding the ark! Friends and family members NOT holding valid passes will be asked to get off the ark at this time! Passengers with valid passes, please form a single line on the ramp with your partner! Hold your passes up where I can see them, and no pushing, biting, or stampeding, please! Thank you!

*She starts to check off her list.*

**Ms. Noah** Lizards! Kangaroos! Shetland ponies, rhinoceroses! Stop pushing, there's plenty of time! Rabbits, iguanas, bald eagles—is that your suitcase? Keep it out of the aisle, please, we got a lot of traffic coming through! Llamas! Doberman pinschers, penguins, hamsters...

*(A bee, wearing a baseball cap and dark glasses, tries to walk quickly past Ms. Noah. She walks with her head lowered, and holds her pass over her head.)*

**Ms. Noah** Can I help you?

**Bee** Chipmunk.

**Ms. Noah** Excuse me?

**Bee** I'm a chipmunk, my husband's on board, I just stepped off to make a few phone calls...

**Ms. Noah** Wait a second. Can I see your pass?

**Bee** Here. *(She flashes the pass at her.)* I'm a chipmunk. See? Here's my pass, that's my picture. Bye!

**Ms. Noah** Just one second! *(She examines the pass.)* This doesn't look anything like you. What did you say you were?

**Bee** I'm a chipmunk. See? *(She bares her front teeth and holds up her hands like paws.)* Whoa, there's my husband over there, gotta roll!

**Ms. Noah** *(Collaring her)* Where did you say you got this?

**Bee** At the main office?

**Ms. Noah** You didn't get this from the main office. You made it yourself! *(Ms. Noah suddenly whips off the Bee's hat. Her antenna spring out.)* AH HAA!

**Bee** Shhh!

**Ms. Noah** JUST AS I THOUGHT! YOU'RE A BEE!

**Bee** Not so loud!

**Ms. Noah** You're a bee, and you were trying to sneak on board! Weren't you?

**Bee** Hey, don't look at me! I waited for months, and I never got a form in the mail!



**Ms. Noah** You never got a form because bees weren't included on the final list! See? *(Reading)* "Subsection B-1: dragons, unicorns, mermaids, and ESPECIALLY bees, NOT to be allowed on board the ark under ANY circumstances!"

**Bee** Oh, yeah? Well, what about him over there?

**Ms. Noah** Who?

**Bee** That guy over there. How come you let him on board?

**Ms. Noah** He's a cockroach.

**Bee** Yeah? And what about her?

**Ms. Noah** She's a Tibetan beetle.

**Bee** Oh, I see. So beetles and cockroaches are okay, and bees aren't?

**Ms. Noah** Don't ask me. I didn't write the list.

**Bee** But that doesn't make any sense! How can you let those clowns on and not someone like me? I know how to garden! I make great honey! I'm a terrific dancer!

**Ms. Noah** Look. I'll tell ya. You want to know the truth, woman to bug? You make my husband nervous.

**Bee** I do?

**Ms. Noah** You never hang out with Noah. You never come when he whistles.

**Bee** It's called being an insect. We're like that, we're very independent.

- Ms. Noah** It's not just because you're a bug. Noah loves bugs, we have millions on board already. He just hates bees.
- Bee** Why?
- Ms. Noah** Well. If you promise not to tell. I think he was stung once. On the... *(She whispers to the bee.)*
- Bee** Great. So your husband has one bad experience on a school field trip, and there goes the entire race of bees, extinct forever? Real mature.
- Ms. Noah** You know, I'm starting to think I'm not too crazy about bees, either.
- Bee** What's not to like?
- Ms. Noah** First of all, you got too much attitude. You're pushy. Plus you complain too much. Buzz, buzz, buzz, you're giving me a headache and we're not even on board yet. Besides, it's not like you're a butterfly or a dragonfly or anything special like that. All you've got is stripes and a needle on your butt. Big deal.
- Bee** But we pollinate things!
- Ms. Noah** Oh, I'm really impressed. Now, do you mind? I've got an ark to fill in the next half hour, and we're only up to the penguins. Camels? Think you could step on it, please?
- Bee** But you can't just throw me off! I can't swim, I don't have any water wings!
- Ms. Noah** Sorry. Would you mind getting off the ark, please?
- Bee** But I'll drown!



- Ms. Noah** *(Into headset)* Security? Yeah, it's me. I get a disturbance on Level One F, I got a disorderly bee here who refuses to buzz off. *(She grabs the bee by the arm and starts to drag her off.)*
- Bee** Help! Help, I'm an innocent chipmunk being attacked by a crazy lady! Help!
- Ms. Noah** NO BEES ON BOARD AND THAT'S FINAL!
- Bee** Help!
- (We hear a ding.)*
- Voice of God** *(Amplified. She happens to be female.)* This is your deity speaking. We are currently thirty-eight minutes from the end of the world as we now know it.
- Ms. Noah** God? Is that you, God?
- Voice of God** For the information of all passengers, please be informed that the bee is a valuable member of my future world plans for millennia to come. As such, treat her with all due respect. And stop acting like the Queen of Sheba. *(We hear a ding.)* The Lord hath spoken.
- Ms. Noah** Yes God, your honor your majesty sir. I mean ma'am. I mean...
- Bee** Wow, did you hear that? So I guess I'm cool, right?
- Ms. Noah** I guess. But you've got to promise me one thing.
- Bee** Sure. What?
- Ms. Noah** You've got to promise me that whatever happens, you and your children and your grandchildren

and your great-great-grandchildren after you must never, ever sting another human being as long as your kind exists. Not on the arm, not on the leg and especially not on the... (*Whispers*)

**Bee** I promise.

**Ms. Noah** All right, then. In that case: welcome aboard.

*(She exits. The bee looks at the audience and shrugs.)*

**Bee** So I lied.

*(Blackout. End of play.)*

# YOU'RE A GOOD MAN, CHARLIE BROWN BY CLARK GESNER

Based on the comic strip, "Peanuts," this musical portrays the trials and tribulations of the cartoon characters Charlie Brown, Lucy, Linus, Snoopy and others as they deal with school, baseball and friendships.

In the following scene Lucy and her younger brother Linus discuss Lucy's plans for the future.

## 1 Boy and 1 Girl Linus and Lucy

*Linus at home watching T.V. Lucy enters.*

**Lucy** Okay. Switch channels.

**Linus** Are you kidding? What makes you think you can come right in here and take over?

**Lucy** These five fingers, individually are nothing. But when I curl them together into a single unit they become a fighting force terrible to behold.

**Linus** Which channel do you want? (*He looks at his hand.*) Why can't you guys get organized like that?

**Lucy** Linus, do you know what I intend? I intend to be a queen. When I grow up, I'm going to be the biggest queen there ever was and I'll live in this big palace with a big front lawn and have lots of beautiful dresses to wear and when I go out in my coach all the people...