

Sally Smart: Second Grade Sleuth

By Gregory T. Burns

NOTES

Sally Smart: Second Grade Sleuth should be performed by a female and as a Humorous Interpretation. While the majority of the characters in this script are indeed said to be young, elementary students, they should be portrayed much older and wiser. Think of sketch comedies on late night television, where *adult* actors portray children in front of an *adult* audience. The actress performing this Humorous Interpretation should be vocally and physically adept at playing multiple characters. There are a total of seven *female* characters in this script, so be creative. The performer might want to try using a few stereotypes; however, comedy typically plays best when there is an element of truth to it. Avoid playing stereotypes with any of the main characters. This script is a melodrama, so the audience *should* feel like they are watching a comedic soap opera.

Time: The present

Locations: Miss Martin's second grade classroom. A playground.
The Principal's office.

Cast of Characters:

Miss Martin, a second grade teacher

Sally Smart, a second grade sleuth

Norman, a nerdy second grade classmate

Valerie, a third grade diva

Velma, a third grade blonde

Vanessa, another third grader

Pam, yet another third grader

Tyrone, a first grade playground monitor

Principal

Scene One: Miss Martin's second grade classroom.

Teacher: Today class, let's begin by going over our homework assignment. Everybody, please take out your addition problems.

Sally: (*Raising her hand and said almost as a chant.*) Miss Martin? Miss Martin? Miss Martin?

Teacher: (*She sees that Sally Smart has raised her hand.*) Yes, Sally, just take the hall pass and hurry back, okay?

Sally: No, Miss Martin, I don't have to go. I was just wondering if you've heard any news about what happened to our class hamsters, Sanjaya and Simon. They've been missing for forty-eight hours. Surely someone has heard *something* by now.

Teacher: Well, Sally, I don't know what to tell you. No one in our school has responded to the Missing Hamster posters you put up in the hallways.

Norman: (*Raising his hand vigorously in the air.*) Miss Martin, maybe they took a field trip and got lost!

Teacher: Oh, Norman, don't be silly. With all of the red tape here at this school, Sanjaya and Simon would have had to fill out *lots* of tedious paperwork and received permission from the Principal thirty days in *advance* to go on a field trip. And we all know that hamsters are *illiterate* and don't have a concept of *calendars*. Isn't that right, children?

Sally: But Miss Martin? Have you asked the other teachers? Have you asked the Principal if *she's* seen them?

Teacher: Well, I asked our custodian, Mr. Lector, if he came into our classroom, found them dead in their cages, threw them out with the trash, and flushed them down the toilet, or whatever it is he does with dead classroom pets, and he said, "No." So I honestly don't know what to tell you.

Sally: But it just doesn't add up!

Teacher: Sally, thank you for that very nice *segue*. Okay, class, who would like to tell me the answer to homework question number one?

Sally: (*To herself*) It's more than obvious that no one in this classroom is concerned that our two class mascots have *vanished* without a trace! They were the furriest friends a second grader could ever have. This is outrageous! If this were a *Fox News* story, Geraldo Rivera, himself, would be here demanding answers to their whereabouts! (*Gasps, as if a lightbulb just went off in her head.*) This is ridiculous.

What am I talking about? I've read *Nancy Drew* mysteries! I've seen every episode of *The Hardy Boys Seasons One through Three* on DVD! I play *Clue Junior!* And *Blue's Clues* is my favorite TV show of all time! I'll solve this mystery myself! And I'll solve it today, or my name isn't Sally Smart: Second Grade Sleuth!

Teacher: Okay, class. Line up. We're all going outside for recess!