



MONOLOGUES

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The Quiz That Almost Killed Me by M.G. Davidson

(ARTHUR defends his son JJ, a mischievous high school student, to JJ's tough teacher.)

ARTHUR

Mrs. Allensby. I'm sorry. I have the utmost respect for educators like yourself. Why? Because... Teachers are an incredible resource. They work long hours for little pay. They receive modest health benefits and retirement resources. They deserve every single penny they get because they spend OVER SIX HOURS a day not just SUPERVISING children, but actually educating them. Often, in our nations overcrowded classrooms, teachers are responsible for up to THIRTY or THIRTY-FIVE students at any given time! They are often blamed for administrative blunders, shotty curriculum they are given no say over, and poor test scores in schools with incredibly limited resources or a high volume of special needs students where those external factors are not considered. They are seriously doing GOD'S WORK, all for the bargain price of what essentially amounts to minimum wage. They are severely underappreciated and they deserve to make millions of dollars a year for putting up with a broken system all the while still nurturing and genuinely caring for thousands and thousands of students over the course of each of their respective careers. EVERY SINGLE ONE OF US should go out and find a teacher and give them the BIGGEST hug imaginable and thank them for their extraordinary service. IMMEDIATELY.

(He pauses.)

BUT.

I have to tell you, I work three jobs. Usually the graveyard shift. I get home from work at the frozen meat plant just after JJ leaves for school. I sleep for a couple hours until eleven A.M., when I wake up to go to my shift at the restaurant. Then I rush home for about ten minutes to say hi to JJ and his mom and then I take a shower and head off to work again. Weekends I haul metal at the scrap yard. I'm doing this so JJ can go to college. So he can have what I never had. So he can make something of himself.

THE QUIZ THAT ALMOST KILLED ME by M.G. Davidson

Length: 25-30 minutes

Cast Size: 11-30 actors (suggested casting: 2F, 4M, 10 any)

Synopsis: A student journeys through space, time and a hilariously idiotic Dickensian theatrical landscape to discover the importance of studying for a quiz. Entertaining for students from the past, present, and future. School was never so terrifying.