



MONOLOGUES

This monologue is from a Stage Partners play, free to read in full at yourstagepartners.com.

#CENSORED by Maria McConville

(After a scandalous piece of art is censored at school, TAYLOR enters holding a large piece of white tape. TAYLOR plays sports—a little callous, maybe, but not a villain.)

TAYLOR

It's just art who cares, don't look at it if you don't like it.

These people.

It's just a PAINTING.

If you don't like it, don't look at it, what's the big deal?

One time my Mom took me to the movie theater—I was like, I don't know, like 5?

And the movie turned out to be kind of scary.

I was little, so I started to freak out.

You know what she told me?

She said, "Cover your eyes."

And I did. And I was fine.

It's a free country, right? So you're FREE to look away.

My God. Some people are such babies.

It's not like it's real.

You wanna have a reaction? Why don't you look at the news?

Why don't you see them bombing kids in Syria?

Art isn't REAL.

So it can't actually BE upsetting!

Why can't people tell the difference between art and real life?

Man.

It would be like every time I watched *ET*, I had nightmares about aliens hiding in my closet.

Just because some kid made that painting, it doesn't make it real. It doesn't make the images come TRUE.



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Fact and fiction, people. It's a simple concept.

IF YOU DON'T LIKE SCARY MOVIES, DON'T GO SEE THEM.

If you didn't like the painting, DON'T WALK BY IT.

It's not a person.

It can't HURT you.

(TAYLOR walks towards the painting with the tape.)

It's not a big deal.

(TAYLOR places a piece of tape over the painting.)

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Length: 30-35 minutes

Cast Size: 7-30 actors (suggested casting: 12 any)

Genre: Drama

Synopsis: In this ensemble-driven drama, a school art fair becomes embroiled in controversy when a student unveils a divisive painting. Students, parents, and teachers must ask themselves tough questions about freedom of speech, appropriateness, what art is supposed to do and "what is the cost of censorship?"