

Trick Play

By Patrick Campbell

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DEDICATION

Dedicated to Jenn, Olivia, and Sarah

STORY OF THE PLAY

Julie, an event planner, has been tasked with organizing a soccer conference at her uncle's run-down hotel. However, no one has registered, so Julie faces being fired. Dan, who has a crush on Julie, asks his sister Effy to pretend to be a world-famous soccer player at the conference to help sell registrations and save Julie's job. Effy is a wannabe actress who looks just like the person she is asked to portray, but she knows less than nothing about soccer. As Dan tries to keep Effy's identity secret, interference from an uptight bellhop, a bitter rich lady, two tough soccer coaches, and a dead dog who keeps disappearing make things spiral out of control. The audience will have a great time watching to see if Dan and Effy can pull off this Trick Play!

PREMIERE PERFORMANCE

"Trick Play" premiered at Lower Macungie Middle School, November 19-21, 2015 with the following cast:

Dan: Dylan Michael; Zach: Jon Whitby; Billy: Trevor Warren; Betty: Tea van Linde; Julie: Alena Slak; Gretchen: Danielle Potts; Louise: Kaitlyn Csensits; Effy: Maddie Brown; Michael: Robert Pierno; Henry: Jack McElhenney; Brian: Lorenzo Antigua; Ursula: Anika Stetz; John: Lucas Nowak; Carol: Marlee Davis; Paula: Maddie Kohler; Katie: Emma Brashear; Irene: Maya Schlesinger; Governor: Alicia Hoover.

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CAST OF CHARACTERS

(6 m, 8 w, 4 flexible.)

(In order of appearance.)

DAN: Delivery guy. Early-mid 20's.

ZACH: Dan's helpful friend. Early-mid 20's.

BILLY: Bellhop. 60's.

BETTY: Maid. 60's.

JULIE: Conference planner. Dan's love interest. Early-mid 20's.

GRETCHEN: Wealthy financeer, loves her little dog. Hard of hearing. 70's.

LOUISE: Gretchen's assistant. 30's.

EFFY: Wannabe actress. Dan's sister. Early 20's.

MICHAEL: Dinner theatre director/cook. 40's.

HENRY: Hotel manager. Julie's uncle. 40's-50's.

BRIAN: British soccer trainer. Late 20's.

URSULA: Austrian soccer coach. 30's.

JOHN: Money lender. 30's.

CAROL: Conference manager. Julie's boss. Early 40's.

PAULA: Reporter for the State Paper. Mid 20's.

KATIE: Young girl. 9-12.

IRENE: Health inspector. 40's.

GOVERNOR: Governor. 40's.

**The roles of Carol, Louise, Michael, and Governor are really gender neutral, and can easily become Carl, Louis, or Michelle. Simply change any pronouns and other gender-specific words. Also, if Louise is Louis, cut John's final line.*

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SETTING

The lobby of the Hazbine Hotel. The main entrance is DSR. An office/hallway is USR. The main desk is between these two doors. On the rear wall, there is an exit to the Conference Room SR and an exit to the Restaurant SL. There is an exit to the hotel rooms USL, and a supply closet DSL. There is a table and couch CSL. There are other chairs, plants, and hotel decorations around.

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

- Scene 1: Friday morning
- Scene 2: Friday early evening
- Scene 3: Friday night
- Scene 4: Saturday morning
- Scene 5: Saturday afternoon

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Scene 1

(AT RISE: The lobby of the Hazbine Hotel. It's Friday morning. DAN and ZACH enter from DSR main entrance, Dan carrying a small box and a clipboard.)

DAN: Thanks for helping with my deliveries today, Zach. I always get lost out here.

ZACH: Everyone gets lost out here. It's a wonder this hotel is still open.

DAN: I thought it was nice.

ZACH: It is. It's just way out in the middle of nowhere, the dinner theatre is pretty outdated, and the head bellhop—

(BILLY pops up from behind desk.)

ZACH: *(Cont'd.)* He's just the most...

BILLY: Yeesss?

ZACH: ...the most bellhoppiest bellhop on the Bay!

BILLY: What do you need?

DAN: I have a delivery for Mr. Mangor.

BILLY: *(Comes out from behind desk.)* I can take that.

DAN: I'm sorry – I have instructions to give it to Mr. Mangor directly.

BILLY: Oh, really?

ZACH: Yeah, really...

BILLY: Mr. Mangor's not here right now. What do your instructions say about that?

ZACH: When will he be back?

BILLY: I'm sure I don't know.

(BETTY enters from USL Room Hall.)

BETTY: Hi, Billy!

BILLY: Hi, Betty.

BETTY: Everything okay?

BILLY: Yes.

DAN: *(To BETTY.)* I have a delivery for Mr. Mangor.

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BETTY: He ran some errands for this weekend's conference. He should be back any minute.

ZACH: *(To BILLY.)* And you didn't know that?

BETTY: Of course you did. Henry told us before he left.

BILLY: Must have slipped my mind.

ZACH: *(Aside.)* That's not all that's slipped your mind.

BETTY: Can you boys wait a few minutes?

BILLY: I don't think—

ZACH: Of course we can. We would *love* to hang out in your Lobby.

BETTY: Excellent! Come along, Billy. There are pillows to fluff. *(Exits to Room Hall.)*

ZACH: Yes, Billy. Go help her fluff her pillows.

BILLY: I – you – ooh! *(Exits to Room Hall.)*

DAN: We can't just hang around here. I've got a full day of deliveries.

(JULIE, GRETCHEN, and LOUISE enter from Main Entrance, unseen by DAN. Julie carries a clipboard and a sports magazine. Gretchen carries her dog, Mr. Snookums.)

JULIE: This is the Lobby...

GRETCHEN: Obviously.

ZACH: *(Sees JULIE, says to DAN.)* Are you sure we can't hang around here?

DAN: Absolutely.

(ZACH turns DAN'S head to face JULIE.)

JULIE: The registration table will go here...

DAN: Mr. Mangor will only be a few minutes.

JULIE: Merchandise will go here...

DAN: What should I do?

ZACH: Should I pass her a note?... Semaphore?

DAN: Stop it!

GRETCHEN: Miss Tower, I am rather concerned about the lack of pre-registration.

JULIE: We are predicting a large turn-out at the door.

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GRETCHEN: I'm not. Show us the main conference room, please.

JULIE: This way.

(JULIE, GRETCHEN, and LOUISE exit to SR Conference Room.)

ZACH: *(Gives DAN googly eyes.)* You could've saved her from the Wicked Witch there.

DAN: I don't know what the full story is.

ZACH: Your princess is in need of saving from evil. Go grab her, and rescue her, and...

(HE puts DAN in a dip-kissing pose; BILLY enters.)

BILLY: Do you need a room?

ZACH: No thanks. We're quite comfortable right here in your lobby.

DAN: Let – go – of – me.

(ZACH drops DAN on floor.)

ZACH: How's the pillow-fluffing going, my good man?

BILLY: I need to get some clean cases. Is there any hope you two won't engage in any more tomfoolery in my lobby?

ZACH: Tomfoolery?

BILLY: Naughtiness.

ZACH: Naughtiness?

BILLY: Monkey business.

ZACH: *(To DAN.)* Is this guy for real?

DAN: We'll behave, sir.

BETTY: *(Offstage.)* Billy, we need more pillow cases!

BILLY: Yes, Betty. *(Runs to USR Office, exiting.)*

DAN: It must be weird to be so smitten with someone like that.

(JULIE, GRETCHEN, and LOUISE enter from Conference Room.)

End of Freeview

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