

SCHOOL DAYS –Vol. 2

A Collection Of Dialogues For Young Actors

by
Marcia Marsh



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School Days

Twenty Dialogues for Young Actors

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Breaking Up

CHARACTERS

ANNE and ROBERT

SETTING: In the hall before classes start

ANNE: I thought you were going to call me last night. Did you forget?

ROBERT: No, I didn't forget. I just thought you didn't want me to call.

ANNE: Why wouldn't I want you to call?

ROBERT: Come on, Anne. You've been giving me the cold shoulder all week. You ignore me whenever you are talking with your friends.

ANNE: I don't ignore you. I just get real involved in my conversations with them.

ROBERT: I don't think so. You go out of your way to turn your back to me when I come around.

ANNE: You're too sensitive. You know I have a lot of girlfriends. I can't forget about those friendships just because you and I are going out.

ROBERT: Brenda told me yesterday that you wanted to break up. She said you told her that I am too possessive.

ANNE: I can't believe Brenda said that!

ROBERT: Is it the truth? Did you tell her that?

ANNE: You know that Brenda is my best friend. We talk about everything.

ROBERT: Did you tell her that you wanted to break up with me?

ANNE: I was mad at you yesterday. You acted all hurt and upset when I didn't wait for you after fourth period. So I told Brenda that you were making me angry.

ROBERT: Well, why didn't you wait for me after fourth period?

ANNE: I told you yesterday that I had to go call my mom about staying after school for soccer tryouts. I was on the phone.

ROBERT: That's right. I remember.

ANNE: You see? You don't listen to me when I tell you things.

ROBERT: Well, I told you that my mind was a little occupied when I got that terrible grade on my math test.

ANNE: I guess we just aren't listening to each other very well.

ROBERT: You always seem to be preoccupied with other people. Like you are more interested in them than you are in us.

ANNE: I have a lot of friends, Robert. I can't dump them because we are together.

ROBERT: I'm not asking you to dump your friends. I just want you to pay attention to me.

ANNE: Speaking of paying attention, I saw you talking to Angela after school yesterday. You two were really wrapped up in each other.

ROBERT: We were talking about the math test. She sits behind me in class.

ANNE: I think she was making a play for you. She was really tossing her hair and fluttering her eyelashes while she talked. It was disgusting.

ROBERT: I've known Angela since third grade. She's a friend.

ANNE: Believe me, she wants to be more than a friend.

ROBERT: Now who's sounding all hurt and upset?

Hard Work

CHARACTERS

JEFF, BRIAN, and TREVOR

SETTING: Standing in the hallway before first period

JEFF: Did you guys watch the game last night? I was so psyched when the Lakers won!

BRIAN: They were awesome. I knew the Lakers were going to do it the minute the game began.

TREVOR: If we could make some of the shots those guys make, our team would be unbeatable.

BRIAN: Are you kidding? Make the shots the NBA players make? In your dreams, dork!

TREVOR: Hey, a guy can dream can't he?

JEFF: All I'd like to be able to do is improve my lay-up. I can get in, but I just miss the shot when I need it the most.

TREVOR: I'd like a three-point shot. I'd pay money to have a decent three-pointer.

BRIAN: Your sister can hit a three-pointer better than you can.

TREVOR: Oh, now that really hurts. That hurts bad.

JEFF: Hey, we'd all like to be consistent. That's our problem. We have moments of glory. . . we just can't do things consistently.

BRIAN: Did you guys hear that Coach Davis is retiring next year? The man has been coaching for twenty-five years. I can't believe that he's giving it up.

JEFF: Yeah, but twenty-five years? That's a long time coach. He's ready to hand it over to somebody else.

TREVOR: I'd like to coach someday. I think I'd be a great coach. I know how to motivate kids. And I'd be good at yelling at them.

BRIAN: I thought you wanted to play in a rock band.

TREVOR: That was last week. I've changed my mind.

JEFF: Sorry, old pal, I think you're a better guitar player than you are a basketball player.

TREVOR: You don't have to be a great player to be a good coach. Some of the greatest coaches weren't outstanding players.

BRIAN: Oh yeah? Like who?

TREVOR: Well. . . like Dean Smith, Pat Riley, Vince Lombardi. . . and maybe some of the greatest players wouldn't make great coaches.

JEFF: Hey, guys, I hate to bury your dreams, but I don't think any of us are professional athlete material. And probably not professional coach material either.

TREVOR: All it takes is being in the right place at the right time.

JEFF: I think it takes more than that. A lot of hard work for one thing.

BRIAN: My grandma was asking me the other day what I wanted to do for a career. I told her that I would like to be a minister or a doctor.

TREVOR: Are you for real?

Family Troubles

CHARACTERS

JULIE, CATHY, and AMANDA

SETTING: In the hallway before first period

JULIE: Hey, Cathy, what's up? You look tired today girl.

CATHY: I am tired. I shouldn't have come to school today. I was up half the night.

AMANDA: *(walking up)* Hey, girlfriends! Are you ready for that test in Math today?

JULIE: Hold on, Amanda. Cathy had a bad night last night.

AMANDA: Sorry. *(pause)* Do you want to talk about it?

CATHY: I shouldn't, but I need to. Things are getting worse at home. Remember what I told you guys last week?

AMANDA: About your parents? Yeah, I remember.

JULIE: Did they have another big fight?

CATHY: It was terrible. My little brother came into my room and asked if he could sleep there. He was pretty upset.

JULIE: What was the fight about? Money, again?

CATHY: It's always about money. Ever since Dad lost his job because of that big merger, life has been miserable at home. My parents' marriage is going down the tubes.

AMANDA: My parents fight about money. They have for as long as I can remember. But, they're still together.

JULIE: Money must be a real pain when you get to be an adult. My mother is always freaked out about how we are going to pay the bills.

AMANDA: Doesn't your Dad help out? You know, child support?

JULIE: Yeah, but he is usually late with the payments. Now that he lives in Arizona, his big excuse is that the mail takes longer from there and that's why the check is always late. It makes my mom so mad.

CATHY: I know I shouldn't be whining to you, Julie. You and your mom have been through so much together and you've had to do it alone since you were little.

JULIE: The worst part was two years ago when Dad remarried and then had a baby with his new wife. I've never even met my little half sister.

AMANDA: That is so sad. Have you ever seen her in pictures or anything?

JULIE: Yeah, Dad sent pictures a couple of months ago. She's adorable. Her name is Sarah. But since they live so far away, we'll probably never get to know each other.

CATHY: I don't want my family to break up. It would kill me. But my mom and dad don't get along anymore. They are always so irritated with each other.

Getting Dumped

CHARACTERS

JODI, PEGGY, and MEGAN

SETTING: In the hall before first period

PEGGY: Jodi and Megan, come over here. I need to talk to you.

JODI: What's the problem? You seem hyper this morning.

PEGGY: I'm going crazy. I need you guys to help me through this.

MEGAN: Help you through what?

PEGGY: I'm upset. My life is falling apart.

MEGAN: Oh, give me a break. Here goes "Miss Drama" again. What's so bad?

JODI: Back off, Megan. She looks upset for real.

PEGGY: Eric broke up with me last night. He called me and acted like such a jerk.

JODI: Eric broke up with you? Oh, my gosh, I never would have guessed that he would be the one. I figured that if it ever happened, it would be you.

PEGGY: You thought that I would break up with him? You know how much I adore him!

JODI: Of course I know. But I also know how much he adores you. Or should I say "adored."

MEGAN: Oh, cut it out Jodi! Have a heart. She's in pain right now.

PEGGY: Yeah, Jodi, don't be a jerk. I cried all night after he called me. What do you think is going on? Is it someone else? Tell me the truth, guys. I have to know the truth.

JODI: I haven't heard a thing about anybody else.

MEGAN: Same here, Peggy. I had no idea that Eric was unhappy. I thought you two were in "La-La Land."

PEGGY: I don't know what the problem is. This is killing me. I like Eric and I have no idea why he would want to break up. Everything was going so perfectly.

MEGAN: Well, what did he say last night on the phone?

JODI: Yeah, what reason did he give for breaking up? What was his story?

PEGGY: It was so weird. He started talking about how good things had been with us, and then he said, "Things have changed. I think it would be best for us to take a break." And that was it.

MEGAN: So what did you say to him?

PEGGY: I was in shock. I didn't know what to say to him. I just let him do the talking.

JODI: You should have said, "Fine, jerk. If you aren't smart enough to realize what you have, then give it up. See if you ever get it back."

MEGAN: Sometimes you can't think of really good things to say to guys until the moment has passed.

JODI: Look, Peggy, if Eric wants to let what you have go, then it's his loss.

Adopted

CHARACTERS

CAROLYN, TONYA, DONNA, and JUDY

SETTING: In a classroom before class starts

CAROLYN: Did you guys see Judy this morning? I passed her in the hall before first period and she looked upset.

TONYA: I haven't seen her today. Maybe she's worried about that science test that she has fifth period.

DONNA: I called her last night to talk and she never came to the phone. Her mother said that she couldn't talk and to call her some other time.

CAROLYN: Maybe she's worried about her relationship with Danny. They seem to be getting along great, though.

TONYA: He treats her like a queen. Danny is such a good guy. I wish all the boys around here were that nice.

DONNA: I doubt if Judy is worried about Danny. They've had three months of pure hearts and flowers. But you are right about most of the boys in our grade. Danny is special.

CAROLYN: The guys in our grade are so independent. . . like they don't want to be tied down to a girl. Some of them are hard to talk to.

TONYA: They probably feel the same way about us. I bet they say we are stuck up and conceited.

DONNA: Wait a minute. Here comes Judy. **(waving to her)** Hey, girl. What's up?

JUDY: **(walking over and sitting down)** Hi guys.

CAROLYN: Hey, you feeling all right, girl? I passed you in the hall this morning and you didn't look so good.

DONNA: And I called you last night and your mom said you couldn't talk. Is everything okay?

JUDY: No, everything's not okay. I feel like the world has been turned upside down. My parents handed me a bombshell last night.

TONYA: Do you want to talk about it?

JUDY: I guess I do. But before I say a word, I want my three best friends to tell me the truth about something.

CAROLYN: Of course we'll tell you the truth.

DONNA: I've never lied to you about anything, have I?

TONYA: I base my friendships on complete honesty. So, what's the question?

JUDY: Did you guys know that I am adopted?

DONNA: **(shocked)** Gosh, no, Judy. I didn't know that.

JUDY: What about you, Tonya? Did you know?

TONYA: **(hesitantly)** Yeah, Judy. My mom told me a few years ago.

JUDY: What about you, Carolyn?

CAROLYN: Yeah, Judy, my parents told me you were adopted when we were in the fifth grade.

JUDY: My gosh, I've been walking around my whole life not knowing something that two of my best friends know about me. Why didn't you tell me?

CAROLYN: It wasn't our place to tell you. It was your parent's decision.

TONYA: I wasn't going to tell you something that important. It would have been wrong.

The Dare

CHARACTERS

KEVIN, GRANT, JEANNE, and RACHEL

SETTING: Sitting at the lunch table in the cafeteria

KEVIN: Did you guys hear what happened to me this weekend? Everybody has been talking about it.

JEANNE: Yes, I heard. You should be crowned King of the Dorks after what you did.

KEVIN: King of the Dorks? I think I ought to be given a medal of courage.
GRANT: Oh. Here you go, trying to impress the girls, Kevin. You know you are a total geek to do what you did.
RACHEL: Okay, guys, I'm the one in the dark here. I've heard people talking in the hall about something funny that happened to Kevin, but I haven't heard the story. What happened?
GRANT: Tell it in your own words, Superman.
JEANNE: You won't believe how dumb he was, Rachel.
KEVIN: I wasn't dumb. I was a hero.
RACHEL: Let me decide that for myself. What did you do?
KEVIN: You know the old Martin house at the end of my street?
RACHEL: The big Victorian house that has been deserted for years?
KEVIN: Yep, that's the one. Well, the county declared it a safety hazard a few months ago and decided that it should be torn down.
GRANT: There were so many rats living in it and so many kids hanging around it that a bunch of parents complained to the county health department.
JEANNE: Remember how we used to hide in that house when we were in trouble with our parents?
GRANT: Not to mention how many Halloweens we would meet in that house to try to scare each other to death
RACHEL: We all spent some scary times in that house. So what happened?
KEVIN: Well, Mr. Macho Bully Ken Smith dared me to spend a whole night in that house. He said I was too much of a wimp to go through with it.
RACHEL: Why would you let a jerk like Ken Smith intimidate you into spending a night in that creepy place?
KEVIN: He didn't intimidate me. We were just joking around about being brave and macho. . . the next thing I know he is daring me to do it. I thought he was joking around, but he was serious.
RACHEL: And you took him up on his dare?
KEVIN: Well, I figured the house was going to be torn down soon and it might be the last chance I'd ever have to spend a whole night in it.
JEANNE: This is what I can't figure out. Why would you want to stay up all night in a house where that awful murder took place?

Divorce

CHARACTERS

TED, BILL, JOHN, and JEFF

SETTING: Standing in the cafeteria line

TED: Why are you buying lunch today, Bill? I thought you hated school food.
BILL: I do. My evil stepmother wouldn't make my lunch this morning.
TED: Did you hear that, John? Bill's evil stepmother is abusing him again.
JOHN: Oh, no, another "evil stepmother" story. Cinderella never had it so bad.
BILL: You guys can make fun of me all you want to. Jeff knows what I'm talking about.
JEFF: Yeah, I sure do. I spent the night at Bill's house last weekend and the evil lady was letting him have it.
TED: What did you do to make her so mad? Forget to empty the trash?
BILL: Pretty close. I didn't walk the dog last night because I got home late from basketball practice. She flipped out when I told her I had too much homework to do and couldn't walk the dog.
JOHN: My mother would probably get mad at me, too, if I didn't walk the dog. But I think she'd still make my lunch in the morning.
JEFF: You know what kills me? I've been making my own lunch for two years now and you guys are waited on like kings.
TED: Then why don't you have your lunch today?
JEFF: I overslept this morning and didn't have time to make it. My mom gave me money for lunch.
JOHN: Poor guy. Gotta' settle for the tasteless pizza and burned fries instead of the gourmet peanut butter and jelly sandwich.
JEFF: Yeah, it's a hard life.
JOHN: So, Bill, do you think things will get better with your stepmother if you walk the dog tonight?
BILL: You guys know how she changed after she married my dad. When they were dating, she was all sugar and spice and all things nice. Then five minutes after the wedding ceremony, her true personality came out.
JEFF: Have you ever talked to your dad about how you feel?

BILL: I don't want to cause any problems. The whole family's messed up right now. Every time I see my mom, she gets all emotional. She hates what happened to our family. I should be living with her. I can't believe I chose to live with my dad.

TED: Then choose to live with your mom. Just tell your dad that you want to live with her.

JOHN: Your dad would understand. I'm sure he wants you to be happy.

BILL: Dad and Jill have only been married three months. I've been hoping that things would improve for me, but they haven't.

JEFF: Man, I'd get out of there like a bat out of. . . (***as teacher walks by***) Oh, hi, Mrs. Wilson. I enjoyed English class today.

BILL: I know what you mean. I think I'll talk to Mom about it this weekend when I see her.

TED: Your mom will do cartwheels if you tell her you want to live with her.

JOHN: Don't your little sister and brother live with your mom?

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