



The Grimble's Last Game

A Cautionary tale
(also available as part of Perilous Tales)
by
Barbara Hockley

Please visit

www.offbeat-theatre.co.uk

for Performing Rights to this work
and
further plays and sketches for
Youth Theatres and Schools

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored or transmitted in any form or by any means without the prior consent of the publisher.

The Grimble's Last Game

Notes:

This sketch was written as part of a series of 4 sketches called 'Perilous Tales'. They are all available on the Offbeat Theatre website individually or as part of the Perilous Tales one act show (which includes linking dialogue).

Originally they were all designed to be played by an ensemble cast, so you can use 7 people or more (more is better) – up to you. Seven characters have lines in this sketch.

Narrator 1

Narrator 2

Molly: Rather sneaky & underhand.

Ed: Smug & selfish.

Zed: Male or female. The sinister owner of the 'gaming shop'. Fantastically evil & bizarrely dressed and would love to be in a real fairytale.

Monster 1

Monster 2

Various dancers, knights etc.

Narr2: Ed and Molly Grimble were champion game players. This is because they sacrificed their lives to perfecting this noble art.

Narr1: And because they frequently downloaded all the cheats they could find

Narr2: Which they considered to be an essential gaming skill

Narr1: They were so good and so fast that a new game only lasted 10 minutes

Narr2: Molly's motto was 'Cheat don't sweat', which on paper looked like it should rhyme, but actually it didn't - much to Molly's annoyance. So she never actually said it out loud, but had it written in large letters and pinned to her bedroom wall

Narr1: Ed's motto was 'Kill! kill! kill!' and he preferred to say it out loud at every opportunity

Ed: KILL! KILL! KILL!

Narr2: But, they both agreed that winning was all that mattered.

They finish a game & celebrate

Ed: Next game!

Molly: *(Looking round to the game pile)* That's it

Ed: Next game!

Molly: There aren't any more

Ed: How? I thought the universe supported you and provided for you if you believed in it

Molly: Believed in what?

Ed: Being supported by the universe. Having games available every minute of the day

Molly: Maybe the universe wants us to go to the game shop and get a new one

Ed: What? Outside?

Molly: It's a cruel, unforgiving universe

Ed: We have no choice, prepare to depart on a mission of extreme urgency

Molly: We'll need chocolate

Narr2: And when they were fully loaded with chocolate they made their way to the imaginatively named 'Game Shop' in the High Street to search for new games

Narr1: But there weren't any. And this had a strange effect on the siblings

They stand very still staring out in shock, then they turn to each other

Molly: What now

Ed: There isn't anything to do

Molly: There must be somewhere we can go to get advice

Ed: What's that? *(looking at something that has just appeared in the street)*

Narr2: Ed had spotted a shop he had never seen before

Molly: It's a shop we've never seen before

Ed: But that building

Molly: Yeah, weird or what

Ed: Didn't it used to be a bus stop?

Molly: Yes, and I feel strangely drawn to it

Ed: As if alien forces were sucking us in....

Narr1: Which indeed they were well, possibly ...

The shop keeper - Zed - is a fantastically strange looking person

Zed: Ah, children do come in to my humble little sweet shop

Ed: Sweet shop?

Zed: Toy shop

Molly: Toy shop?

Zed: Game shop

Ed: Phew!

Molly: This shop is rubbish

Ed: We're not a liberty to discuss details of our mission, but we need a new computer game

Molly: One we haven't played before

Zed: What lovely children you are. So ... you want a game do you

Ed: We just said that

Molly: Duh!

Zed: *(Looks strangely satisfied)* Oh good. Well, no problem, I think I have something you might find rather challenging. In fact, I wouldn't be surprised if you fail at the first level.

Ed: Hah!

Molly: Fail! Us!

Ed: You don't know who you're dealing with

Molly: We're like .. the best!

Ed: We'll complete all levels before you can close

Zed: Oh, I don't think so, I'm about to close now . But, if you can manage to get the the 5th level do pop back in the morning and I'll refund your money in full - but no cheating. And I will know if you cheat.

Molly: How?

Zed: You'll see. Now are you up for the challenge?

Ed: What is this game?

Zed: Here it is *(produces a big box tied up with ribbons)*

Ed: Beyond The Ultimate Yucky Nightmare Of Doom

Zed: Do you like anagrams?

Ed: Uh?

Molly: Uh?

Zed: I thought so. The game costs £100 - full refund tomorrow if you can finish it.

Molly: Wait there

Ed: We'll be back

Narr1: And they raced home to raise the necessary funds

Narr2: The universe arranged for money to be available in various purses, wallets and piggy banks that miraculously appeared around the house

They make it back to the shop

Ed: Here we are

Molly: Refund tomorrow?

Zed: As agreed

They race home with the box, tear it open & inside they find 2 bizarre looking headsets

Molly: (*Searching the box*) It doesn't tell us what we should do

Ed: That's easy. Just kill everything in sight

Molly: I'll find the cheats

Ed: Try this on first

They put the headsets on and immediately the lighting changes & gets really weird

Ed: Woahhhh. Cool. Where's the disk

Molly: There isn't one

Ed: Must be

Molly: Nope, this is it

Zed appears in what appears to be an over the top disco divas outfit

Zed: Welcome to my world. So glad you managed to get this far.

Molly: Arghhh. This isn't right - you're not here

Zed: Of course not. Except, I am. As you can see. Now let's get on with the game shall we

Ed: Where are the weapons?

Zed: There aren't any

Molly: Instructions then

Zed: No instructions. You'll have to use your initiative

Ed: Our what?

Zed: And your wit

Molly: But..

Zed: No buts! You wanted a challenge and look what the universe has provided...

Ed: But I'm a killing machine and I can't kill without a weapon, I don't get it

Zed: Oh, you will.... Now, pay attention! Currently you are on Level One - Entry Level in fact. Very easy. This is the Apathy Level. Off with their heads!!

Ed: Is she mad?

Molly: I think so

*2 warriors/monsters/similar appear & sit down on either side of Molly & Ed.
They look really bored & fed up.*