

Celebrating Australian Playwriting



Australian Script Centre



When Our Teacher Was A Creature

by Bruce Shearer

EXTRACT

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Cast

Festus Flynn	Festus Flynn is one of the narrators of the play.
Gertie Goat	Gertie Goat is one of the narrators of the play.
Zelda Zone	Zelda Zone is one of the narrators of the play.
Lionel Limb	Lionel Limb is one of the narrators of the play.
The Creature	A huge creature who is a teacher for a day.

Setting

The play is set in a suburban primary school room. Festus, Gertie, Zelda and Lionel are the narrators of the play. The rest of the class could be encompassed by puppets or by extras, lighting effects or other means.

Synopsis

Festus Flynn, Gertie Goat, Zelda Zone, Lionel Limb and their class are awaiting the arrival of their teacher, but instead a creature comes to teach them for one very special day.

When our teacher was a creature

(LIGHTS COME UP ON **FESTUS**, **GERTIE**, **ZELDA** AND **LIONEL** LOOKING AT THE SCHOOL CLOCK. **GERTIE** GETS OUT OF HER SEAT TO SEE IF HER TEACHER IS COMING, BUT THERE IS NO SIGN OF HER. THEN **FESTUS**, **GERTIE**, **ZELDA** AND **LIONEL** GET UP AND STEP FORWARD TO THE AUDIENCE AND START TO SPEAK.)

Festus: One day our teacher didn't come to school

Gertie: Be bright and early was her general rule.

Zelda: But one day, she didn't even show

Lionel: And where she was, we didn't really know.

(SOME FIERCE GROWLING CAN BE HEARD AT THE SCHOOL DOOR. THE FIERCE GROWLING GRADUALLY GETS LOUDER AND CLOSER AND CLOSER.)

Festus: Then there was something growling at the door.

(THE SOUND OF ENORMOUS FEET POUNDING ON THE FLOOR CAN ALSO BE HEARD.)

Gertie: Some giant feet were pounding on the floor.

(THEN THE SOUNDS OF YOWLING, SCREECHING AND STRANGE DEEP HUMMING CAN BE HEARD.)