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# **Comedy Duets #2**

by PEG KEHRET

A collection of three  
short comedy sketches

## ***Outrageously Updated Fairy Tales for Moderns***

This three-play package of comedy dialogs is totally adaptable to stage presentation, TV, radio broadcasts, or classroom workshop sessions. Each ten- to fifteen-minute sketch is a sparkling dialog restaging of a fairy tale situation. Two or three characters are involved in each sketch.

1. **There's No Witch at the Hilton** — After fourteen years the woodcutter and his wife have had enough of both Hansel and Gretel. So it's off to the woods and many moments of fast-cracking comedy follow.
2. **The Better to Stalk You With, My Dear** — Granny offers pepperoni pizza to an incompetent wolf and Red Riding Hood leaves in a huff. Then the little old lady convinces the wolf that his technique is all wrong. In this new kind of fairy tale, Grandma throws in with the wolf and they end up partners.
3. **Music and Lyrics by Alladin** — What happens when a young man named Alladin becomes a songwriter and has a Genie for a business manager? Trouble! And big fun with a zany lyric writing contest.

## 1                   **There's No Witch at the Hilton**

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5       **CAST: HUSBAND, WIFE**

6

7           *(The WIFE is sitting, reading or knitting, as the husband*  
8           *enters.)*

9

10   **HUSBAND: Hello . . . I'm home.**

11   **WIFE: Hi.**

12   **HUSBAND: Where are the kids?**

13   **WIFE: Oh . . . out.**

14   **HUSBAND: Out where?**

15   **WIFE: In the woods.**

16   **HUSBAND: In the woods? But it's after dark . . . they'll**  
17       **get lost.**

18   **WIFE: That's the idea.**

19   **HUSBAND: You didn't!**

20   **WIFE: I did.**

21   **HUSBAND: I thought we were going to talk about it again**  
22       **tonight.**

23   **WIFE: We've talked about it! Every night for two weeks we've**  
24       **talked about it. It was time for action.**

25   **HUSBAND: I suppose you're right. I hope you gave them**  
26       **some food.**

27   **WIFE: What do you think I am, a wicked stepmother? Of**  
28       **course I gave them some food. Peanut butter and**  
29       **catsup sandwiches.**

30   **HUSBAND: Yuck. What kind of thing is that to give them,**  
31       **peanut butter and catsup sandwiches?**

32   **WIFE: It's what they like, that's what. Every morning all**  
33       **week long, I have to make peanut butter and catsup**  
34       **sandwiches for their lunches. It's enough to turn my**  
35       **stomach.**

1 HUSBAND: I should think so. They both like that?  
2 WIFE: Hansel wants mustard on his, too, but I draw the  
3 line at that.  
4 HUSBAND: How long ago did you take them?  
5 WIFE: Oh, a couple of hours. Will you stop worrying?  
6 They'll get along OK. It's probably the woods we  
7 should worry about. With Hansel on the loose, it's  
8 liable to be an ecological disaster out there.  
9 HUSBAND: It sure seems quiet around here.  
10 WIFE: Do you want to go to a movie?  
11 HUSBAND: Can we get a sitter this late?  
12 WIFE: What do we need with a sitter?  
13 HUSBAND: That's right. Say, maybe there will be  
14 advantages to this arrangement.  
15 WIFE: I knew you'd like it.  
16 HUSBAND: I didn't say that. It's going to be very lonesome  
17 without my little Gretel here to —  
18 WIFE: Spill her milk at the dinner table.  
19 HUSBAND: I was going to say, without my Gretel here to —  
20 WIFE: Wet the bed every night.  
21 HUSBAND: Will you stop that?  
22 WIFE: Well, it's true. How does she manage that, do you  
23 suppose?  
24 HUSBAND: Manage what?  
25 WIFE: To spill every liquid she gets and still be able to  
26 wet the bed.  
27 HUSBAND: You aren't being fair. Lots of kids wet their  
28 beds.  
29 WIFE: 'Til they're fourteen?  
30 HUSBAND: She isn't fourteen and you know it.  
31 WIFE: Well, I'd be willing to bet my last nickel that when  
32 she is fourteen, she'll still be doing it.  
33 HUSBAND: Speaking of last nickels, can we afford to go  
34 to a movie tonight? I'm broke.  
35 WIFE: We can put it on our credit card.

1 HUSBAND: Good thinking. What's playing, anyway?  
2 WIFE: "Goldilocks and the Bare Three."  
3 HUSBAND: But that's rated X.  
4 WIFE: Good. It's about time we saw an X film. I'm sick  
5 of Walt Disney.  
6 HUSBAND: I guess there's no reason we can't go, as long  
7 as we aren't taking the kids.  
8 WIFE: Hansel would probably have loved it.  
9 HUSBAND: What's that supposed to mean?  
10 WIFE: I caught him reading *Playboy* again last night.  
11 HUSBAND: So he's a normal red-blooded boy, with a little  
12 curiosity. Lots of kids buy *Playboy*.  
13 WIFE: The Braille issue?  
14 HUSBAND: I didn't even know it came that way. Must be  
15 some center fold-out!  
16 WIFE: Not only that, his teacher called again.  
17 HUSBAND: What did she want this time?  
18 WIFE: It seems Hansel had a profitable little business going  
19 in the cafeteria. He charged the other children a penny  
20 each for the paper napkins.  
21 HUSBAND: That doesn't seem so high.  
22 WIFE: The napkins were furnished free by the school.  
23 HUSBAND: Oh. Well, at least that's better than the time  
24 he tape-recorded our discussion about your mother and  
25 then played it for Show-and-Tell.  
26 WIFE: Discussion? You called my mother a frustrated old  
27 hen, who needed a good rooster, and that kid played it  
28 for the whole world.  
29 HUSBAND: It was not the whole world. Only the fifth  
30 grade class.  
31 WIFE: Judging from the phone calls I got the next day,  
32 there must have been four hundred and fifty kids in  
33 that fifth grade class.  
34 HUSBAND: I already apologized for that, so let's not get  
35 into it again. Your mother's gone now anyway, God rest

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