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MIME TIME

*A collection of
mime skits*

by DEBBIE HOWELL

1. Make-up Artist
2. Basketball Lesson
3. Dancing Doll
4. See How They Run
5. Runaway Arm
6. Recycled Gum
7. Who's Minding the Class?
8. Movie Matinee



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AUTHOR'S PRODUCTION NOTES

Mime Time was developed when we needed to entertain a variety of audiences. It has found appeal among young and old. It has been performed in churches, schools, in the mall and on the street. It is a collection which travels well and has been used often in competition with consistent success.

Mime Time uses the classic combination of comic and straight actor to provide a simple conflict. Our audiences seem to respond better to mime skits which contain complete stories — a resolved conflict.

Use the suggested skits with any mime — beginner or advanced — who wants to entertain. Begin by reading through the entire script, then add action and movement. Limit the sets, because elaborate ones can distract the audience's attention from the mime. Don't be afraid to add your own character interpretation. A mime is only convincing when he allows the audience to see life through his own eyes. Exaggerate, examine, exclaim and enjoy!

— *Debbie Howell*

SPECIAL NOTE TO TEACHERS OR DIRECTORS

All mime skits are to be performed without props. The only item on stage is a chair or stool as indicated in the scene of each skit. Encourage your mimes to be individuals. If they have an idea for something to be added to the skit, let them try it. The best ideas always come from working out the details of any mime scene. Be creative. The most important thing to remember in all of the following skits is to find fun in what you are doing. If you enjoy yourself, your pantomiming will be entertaining. Have fun!

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Make-up Artist

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SCENE: In front of an empty frame representing a mirror. The mirror should be Down Center so the mime faces the audience to look into the mirror. Also, you'll need a real stool for mime to sit on during make-up application.

CHARACTERS: GLAMOUR GIRL, a well-dressed, stylish young lady

TOMBOY, a girl who would rather not pay any attention to dress or appearance

GLAMOUR GIRL enters and begins to look at herself in the mirror, facing the audience. She is pleased with what she sees, but she puts corrective touches on make-up and hair.

TOMBOY enters and walks to the mirror, but not to look at herself; she just wants to wash her hands. She turns on the water, full force. It splashes GLAMOUR GIRL. TOMBOY apologizes and tries to wipe water off of her victim, but only makes her more angry. GLAMOUR GIRL turns on the water and splashes TOMBOY. This action, however, fails to bother TOMBOY. TOMBOY motions to her own face and hair and shows GLAMOUR GIRL she is not bothered, because she is not wearing make-up. GLAMOUR GIRL shows an expression of sadness and apologizes to TOMBOY. She offers to apply make-up to TOMBOY to make amends for the incident. TOMBOY accepts the offer.

GLAMOUR GIRL unzips her purse and begins to remove the tools necessary for the job. TOMBOY watches in wonder; her eyes widen and she turns to leave. GLAMOUR GIRL grabs her arm and sits TOMBOY on the stool, facing Stage Right, as

1 GLAMOUR GIRL faces Stage Left. TOMBOY looks
2 to the side and can face the audience as she looks in
3 the mirror. GLAMOUR GIRL picks up a brush and
4 brushes hair from face of TOMBOY to prepare for
5 make-up application.

6 She returns the brush to the counter and picks
7 up a small bottle. She shakes the bottle as TOMBOY
8 leans forward on her stool to watch the procedure.
9 GLAMOUR GIRL opens the bottle, puts a small
10 amount of liquid on one index finger. She dots this
11 onto face of TOMBOY and blends over entire face
12 and neck. TOMBOY looks into the mirror and back
13 at GLAMOUR GIRL as she shakes her head.

14 GLAMOUR GIRL shakes her head and begins
15 to apply eye make-up. TOMBOY manages to wiggle
16 and gets something into her eye. She makes a fist
17 and rubs her eye as she frowns. GLAMOUR GIRL
18 grabs TOMBOY'S hand, cleans up the damage and
19 begins work on the eye again, holding TOMBOY'S
20 chin.

21 Next is lipstick. GLAMOUR GIRL shows
22 TOMBOY how to hold her lips for the application.
23 TOMBOY looks into the mirror and thinks this is
24 very funny. She makes faces at herself until
25 GLAMOUR GIRL again grabs her chin for the
26 application. TOMBOY manages to get some of the
27 lipstick into her mouth and makes a big fuss over
28 the bad taste.

29 The next step is application of powder. This
30 causes TOMBOY to cough and choke. She turns to
31 look in the mirror, but GLAMOUR GIRL is not
32 ready for the final look. She picks up the brush and
33 arranges TOMBOY'S hair. She is satisfied with her
34 work, and steps back and smiles. Then she motions
35 with her hand for TOMBOY to look into the mirror.

1 TOMBOY looks with disbelief at the new image.
2 She points to herself and shakes her head. GLAMOUR
3 GIRL smiles and also looks into the mirror as she nods
4 her head in approval. GLAMOUR GIRL and TOMBOY
5 look at each other, shake hands and pick up the
6 make-up tools together. They place the items in the
7 purse. They move to the door, and then stop for one
8 last look. GLAMOUR GIRL and TOMBOY look at the
9 audience, and then into the mirror, smile, bow their
10 heads and turn to exit from the stage. (*This can be*
11 *done with two boys who pretend to be girls for a*
12 *very comic mime.*)
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