

# DRAMA LESSON ACTIVITIES

## 2. You Dummy!

Below is an extract from Act 2 of **Shock Horror**.

Herbert is locked in his room with a creepy ventriloquist's dummy given to him by his Father. One actor can play Herbert and one can be the puppet. The scene is incomplete, how would you finish it?

*STAGE: HERBERT lies down to go to sleep. The creepy old ventriloquist's dummy stares at him from the end of the bed. A thunderstorm breaks outside, the puppet turns to him and blinks, stops when HERBERT looks at it. Puts his head down to go to sleep, the puppet wakes...*

**PUPPET:** *(New York accent)* Hello Herbert.

*HERBERT screams, tries to escape, bangs on the locked bedroom door. Puppet laughs.*

**PUPPET:** Hey, save your strength Rocky, he's locked it from the outside.

**HERBERT:** Who are you?

**PUPPET:** I'm your buddy, buddy boy! Now why don't you come take a seat next to your old pal.

*The puppet, pats the bed, quiet, sinister. HERBERT shakes his head. Puppet pats the bed again, slow, insistent. HERBERT edges closer.*

We're gonna be real good for each other.

HERBERT's next to the puppet.  
Surreptitiously picks up a dust  
sheet, throws it over the puppet. It  
doesn't move... silence.

**DARKNESS:** Seriously?

**HERBERT:** You aren't real, you aren't real...

**DARKNESS:** I can't breathe under here...

*The puppet shakes, gasping for  
breath, then... nothing. Stops  
moving. HERBERT's unsure, reaches  
out, gently grips the sheet, quickly  
pulls it off, the puppet shouts...*

Boo!!!!

*HERBERT screams, runs back to the  
door, the puppet laughs.*

**PUPPET:** You sure fell for that!

**HERBERT:** Where did you come from?

**PUPPET:** Inside. Everything comes from inside.

**HERBERT:** Inside the walls?

**PUPPET:** Inside the walls, inside your head and just in a  
case... I was under your bed!

**HERBERT:** Go away!

**PUPPET:** *(Laughs)* Oh, don't be like that, we're cut from the  
same cloth. Now come over here, I want to whisper a secret in  
your ear...